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Steers fall to Bronchos in season opener
Page 1B



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SEPTEMBER 1
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BIG SPRING

HERALD

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 2, 2007



VOLUME 102, NUMBER 238

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50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

Thursday dinner to preview concert series

In Balance

What: Big Spring Symphony series kickoff dinner.

Where: Big Spring Country Club.

When: 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

Admission: \$8.95 per person. RSVP by calling 267-7210.



Graumann



Giordano

Public invited to meet Maestro John Giordano

By BILL MCCLELLAN
News Editor

And a one, and a two, and a ... It's time for the smallest community in Texas with its own symphony to start blowing its horns, tapping its keys and striking its strings. "In Balance," the Big Spring Symphony's four-concert season, begins Saturday at the Municipal Auditorium.

First, however, friends of the symphony are invited to a special dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday at the Big Spring Country Club. The event will feature Maestro John Giordano, conductor emeritus of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and the Fort Worth Chamber Orchestra. Maestro Giordano will also lead the Big Spring Symphony in its opening performance "Great Classics," Saturday night.

"He has worked with many of the world's premier orchestras and artists," Big Spring Symphony conductor and director Keith Graumann said of

Giordano. "This (reception) is a great opportunity to meet him for those who haven't done so."

Thursday's concert startup event will feature dinner at 7 p.m. — tickets are \$8.95, plus drinks. Those planning to attend should RSVP by calling 267-7210.

Saturday's series-opening concert will begin at 8 p.m. and in addition to Giordano will feature 15-year-old Sijing Ye of China, winner of the 2007 Aspen Piano Concerto Competition.

Giordano will lead the symphony in Lizst's "Piano Concerto No. 1," Respighi's "Ancient Airs and Dances" and Stravinsky's "Firebird Suite."

The rest of the symphony season includes:

— "A Symphonic Christmas," Dec. 15, featuring The Coahoma Choir Kids under the direction of Sandra Wallace.

— "Bringing Europe to America," Feb. 9, 2008, featuring the music of Antonin

See **CONCERT**, Page 3A

FRIDAY NIGHT FEVER

Across the state, fans filled stadiums Friday night for the start of the 2007 schoolboy football season. It was no different at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa, where the Big Spring Steers took on the Odessa High Bronchos. Clockwise from right, the Steers enter the stadium, BSHS cheerleaders get the crowd going and below, the band played on.



By the numbers

HC officials are pleased with early enrollment figures

By STEVE REAGAN
Staff Writer

Howard College officials are pleased with enrollment numbers for the new school year — and look to be even more pleased in the coming weeks.

With new students signing up for classes at a steady clip, HC enrollment figures are climbing toward record heights, officials said.

College President Dr. Cheryl Sparks reported that, as of Friday afternoon, total enrollment at all campuses stood at 3,096, a figure just below the record of 3,120 set last fall.

Enrollment figures for the individual campuses were:

- Big Spring — 1,305.
- San Angelo — 1,564.
- SouthWest Collegiate

See **HC**, Page 3A



Sparks

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Find us online at:
www.bigspringherald.com

To reach us:

Please call 263-7331. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you miss your paper, please call (432) 263-7335 before 7 p.m. weekdays and noon Sunday.

LABOR DAY CLOSINGS

The Big Spring Herald office will be closed Monday in observance of Labor Day.

Newspapers will be delivered as usual that day.

Crossroads area residents are reminded that city offices in Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan, Ackerly and Stanton will be closed Monday, as will county and federal offices in Howard, Martin, Glasscock and Dawson counties.

All area public schools, including Howard College and SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf, will be closed Monday and will reopen Tuesday morning.

'Katie's Law' has senior Texans facing some new driving hurdles

AUSTIN (AP) — Katie Bolka was just a final exam away from the start of her 2006 summer vacation. Stopped at a red light on her way to school, the 17-year-old Dallas junior and budding artist continued through the intersection when it turned green.

Her car was the third through the light when another piloted by a 90-year-old driver slammed into Bolka's door at about 45 mph. Badly injured, Bolka died a few days later.

Convinced that the woman who struck their daughter should not have been behind the wheel, Bolka's parents pushed Texas lawmakers to pass "Katie's Law," which places new restrictions on Texas' elderly drivers. It is one of hundreds of new state laws that take effect Saturday.

Texas residents 79 and older will no longer be allowed to renew their licens-

See **DRIVING**, Page 3A

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Sports

BIG SPRING HERALD

Weekend Edition, September 1-2, 2007 **Page 1B**

Do you have an interesting sports item or story idea? Call Jonathan Hull at 263-7331, Ext. 237. Email results to: sports@bigspringherald.com

IN BRIEF

Area high school sports calendar

Here's a listing of this week's area high school varsity sports calendar:

Tuesday

Big Spring Tennis at Snyder, 4 p.m.

Thursday

Big Spring Volleyball at Odessa Permian, 6:30 p.m.

Friday

Big Spring football at San Angelo Central, 7:30 p.m.

Forsan football vs. Seagraves, Homecoming, 7:30 p.m.

Coahoma football vs. Roscoe, 7:30 p.m.

Grady football at Whiteface, 7:30 p.m.

Stanton football vs. Whiteface, 7:30 p.m.

Sands football at Wilson, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday

Big Spring volleyball vs. Wink/Andrews, 10 a.m. at Howard College

Big Spring cross country at Plainview.

Forsan season passes available

Forsan ISD is selling Football Family Season Passes until Friday.

The passes are good for any junior high, junior varsity or varsity home game and covers all immediate family members.

The cost is \$40. Tickets may be purchased through the superintendent's office from 8-12 and 1-4 Monday through Friday.

Contact Judy Park at 457-2223, ext. 2, with any questions.

Howard College schedules Battle of the Cheerleaders

Howard College is the place to be Sept. 15.

The Battle of the Cheerleaders will take place at 5:30 p.m. at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

All area high schools have been invited to compete. There will be both cheer and dance competitions.

Top cheer, dance and mascot awards will be presented.

Admission is free for the public, who is invited to stick around after the Battle for a community pep rally.

All area schools and communities are invited to participate. Each school will be given the opportunity to recognize their student athletes.

A spirit stick will be awarded to the community/school showing the most spirit.

QB Club meeting set for Monday

The Big Spring Quarterback Club will hold its weekly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at the Athletic Training Center.

Contact Denise Carillo at 816-1685 or Frank Stiles at 270-3041 for more details.

Crossroads Youth Football sign-ups

The Crossroads Youth Football Association have begun their sign-ups for the 2007 season.

While there will be no more early registra-

See **BRIEFS**, Page 3B

Area roundup: Grady off to hot start



Grady's Roy Rodriguez runs past several Sanderson tacklers during the Wildcats' 58-8 victory Friday night in Lenorah.

Herald Staff Report

LENORAH — Expectations are high for Grady's Wildcats in the 2007 football season. They showed why Friday night.

The Wildcats punished Sanderson's Eagles 58-8, ending the game in the 3rd quarter due to the 45-point mercy rule that governs six-man football.

The 11th-ranked Wildcats were led by Roy Rodriguez's 112 yards rushing and two touchdowns and sophomore quarterback Dylan Cox's 54 yards passing with one touchdown.

The Wildcats put three scores on the board before Sanderson could find the end zone even once. Casey Shands started the scoring, breaking free for a 30-

yard touchdown run. Rodriguez would score his first of two rushing touchdowns 1:30 later on a 44-yard scamper.

Cox connected with Tubb on a 2-yard pass, pushing Grady's lead to 22-0 with 3:23 left in the game.

The Wildcats would immediately respond after Sanderson's Phillip Lascano rushed for a 67-yard touchdown run with another score of their own. Tommylee Rivas plunged into the end zone from 1-yard out, extending Grady's lead to 30-8 at the end of the first quarter.

Grady's Leighton Fields would join in on the scoring onslaught, contributing a 47-yard punt

See **AREA**, Page 3B

Reagan County dominates Coahoma, 52-14

Herald Staff Report

BIG LAKE — Coahoma's Bulldogs struck first on the football field Friday night, but Reagan County's Owls struck more often.

The Bulldogs took the game's opening drive the distance when fullback Corey Roberts scored on a 6-yard run. However, Owls quarterback Brandon Davenport was the game's star.

Davenport completed just seven passes Friday night, however, six went for touchdowns, leading Reagan County to a 52-14 victory.

Davenport ended up completing seven of 11 passes for 233 yards along with his six passing touchdowns and one rushing score.

"He's hard to contain," said Coahoma Head Coach Jay Kennedy about Davenport. "We'd look like we had him contained and he'd reverse his field and still get big gains. Then our secondary started worrying about helping with containing him and he'd hit us for a long gain. He made us look pretty inexperienced."

Davenport consistently thwarted any momentum Coahoma might be gaining by routinely converting long third-down and fourth-down situations.

"We had the momentum early. We pushed the ball right down their throats our opening drive," said Kennedy. "After that, we just couldn't keep anything going consistently on offense. We kept shooting ourselves in the foot."

The Bulldogs would score their other touchdown early in the fourth quarter when quarterback Donnie Garcia would scamper into the end zone from three yards out. Garcia would complete a pass to Colter Morgan for the two-point conversion.

Unfortunately for Coahoma, Davenport would account for his

See **COAHOMA**, Page 3B



Big Spring Steers' running back Monte Anderson tries to get a handle on the ball as he avoids an Odessa High defender Friday night at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa. The Steers dropped the season opening game 41-6.

Steers falter in season debut

By JONATHAN HULL

Sports Editor

ODESSA — Odessa High's Bronchos were advertised as a team built around one player — quarterback David Camacho.

Talk about false advertisement. Despite Camacho going down on Odessa's second drive of the game, the Bronchos pounded Big Spring's Steers, 41-6, at Ratliff Stadium in Odessa Friday night.

Odessa rallied around sophomore quarterback Derrick Teegarden, who finished the game with 245 combined passing and rushing yards and three total touchdowns. He single-handedly accounted for more

yards than the Steers, who tabulated 155 yards of total offense.

"We were prepared for more of a running attack with Camacho, but we knew what type of player Teegarden was," said Steers' Head Coach Mike Ritchey. "I don't know that we ever adjusted to the difference though. They made some big plays and we didn't."

Big Spring kept frustrating itself, wiping out big plays with costly penalties. Twice wide receiver Darius McCalister broke free for long gains on reverse plays. However, both were called back due to clipping penalties, killing any momentum

for the Steers' offense.

Odessa put its first points on the board — a 21-yard field goal by Travis Austin — with 2:55 remaining in the first quarter. However, they would score again just 21 seconds later after Tyler Tannehill fumbled while being sacked by Chase Rader.

The Bronchos recovered the fumble at the 9-yard line and running back Dean Ramos would scamper into the end zone on the first play. Odessa took a 10-0 lead following the extra point.

The Steers had a chance to cut into the lead early in the second

See **STEERS**, Page 2B

Forsan gets off to slow start, falls 30-7 to Kermit



Forsan's Jace Sandridge tries to dodge a Kermit defender in game action Friday night. The Buffs fell to Kermit, 30-7.

By JEFF LANE

Special to the Herald

The preseason favorite in District 16-1A hasn't had a ton to cheer about early in the 2007 season and it didn't get much better Friday night.

In the Forsan Buffaloes' season opener, Kermit's Yellow Jackets took it to them winning, 30-7, as they wore down the smaller Forsan team.

But to the Buffs' credit they did not give it away easily. In fact, Kermit held only a 7-point advantage late in the third quarter as Forsan made for a tougher opponent than the Jackets expected.

Forsan Head Coach Tommy Thompson has seen better days with the Buffs, but did not walk away from last night's game with nothing positive.

"Obviously the outcome is not what we wanted. No team wants to start off the season with a loss," said Thompson. "But we held our own for the majority of the game and hopefully proved something to ourselves in doing

so."

The Buffs gave up 14 unanswered points in the first quarter, but held the Jackets scoreless in the second, including a goal line stand to end the half.

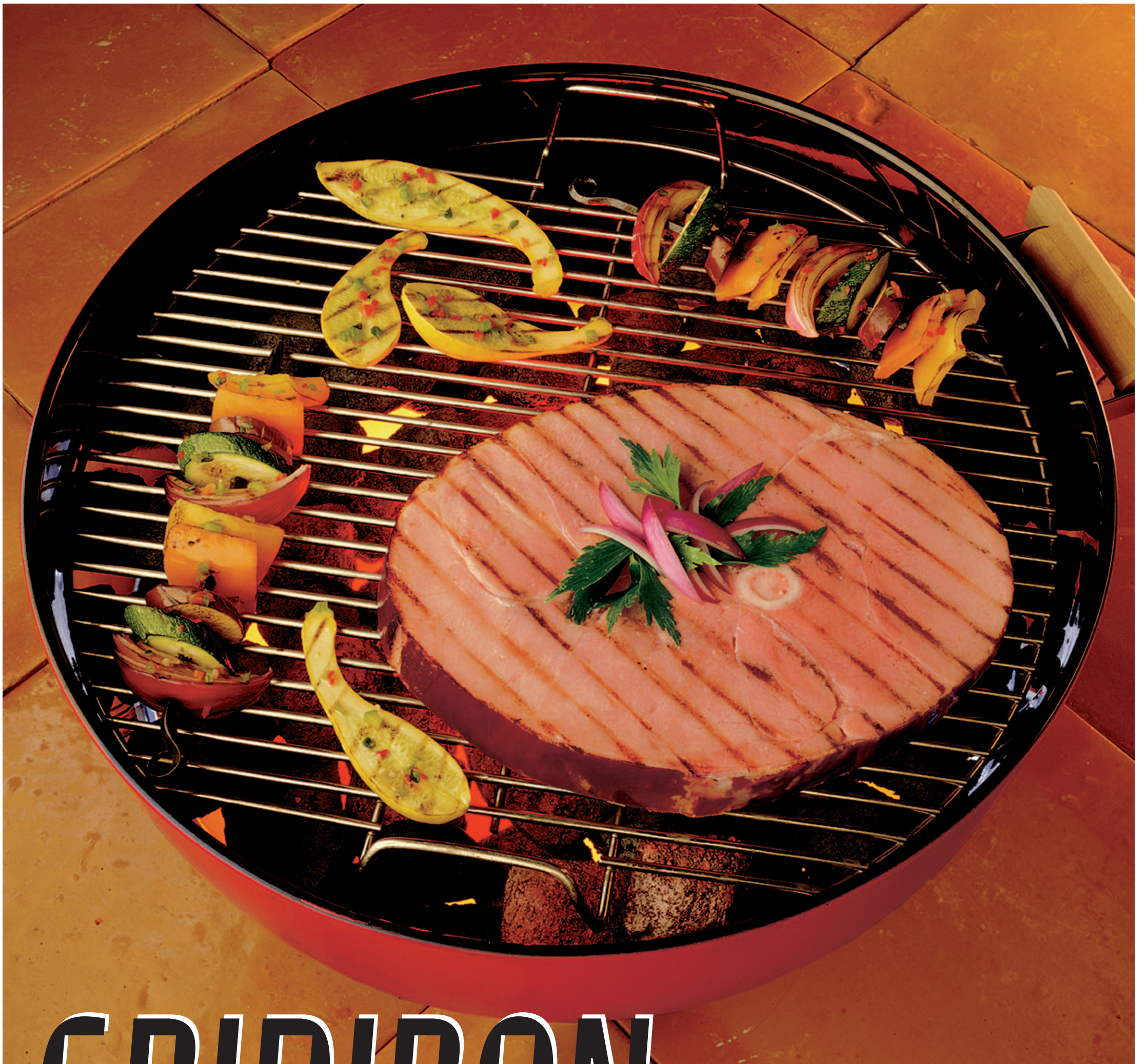
Kermit could not take advantage of an average field position inside the Buffs 40-yd line for the entire first half. The Forsan defense slammed the door on four of six drives, forcing three 3-and-outs.

"We brought everything we had on defense. I think we did an admirable job limiting their success on offense," Thompson said. "We missed more tackles than I would have liked and we were down in the late minutes of the game, but I'm proud of the effort."

Forsan also saw some success on offense in the game, something they had shown little of in the two preseason contests.

Receiving the ball to open the second half the Buffs took the ball on their own 35-yd line and

See **FORSAN**, Page 3B



GRIDIRON GRILLING

Ham Steak Kabobs

Serves 4 to 6

- 1 Cook's Bone-in Ham Steak (about 1 pound) or 1 Cook's Bone-in Thick-cut Ham Steak (about 2 pounds), cut into 1-inch pieces
 - 1 medium red bell pepper, cut into 8 chunks
 - 1 medium green bell pepper, cut into 8 chunks
 - 8 cherry tomatoes
 - 8 small mushroom caps
 - 8 chunks fresh pineapple
 - 1 medium sweet onion, such as Vidalia, cut into 8 wedges
 - 1/2 cup Italian dressing, divided
1. Prepare grill for medium heat.
 2. Thread ham onto 8 metal or wooden* skewers alternately with bell peppers, tomatoes, mushrooms, pineapple and onion. Brush with half the dressing.
 3. Grill kabobs 8 minutes, or until ham reaches internal temperature of 160°F when tested in center with meat thermometer and vegetables are crisp-tender, turning and brushing occasionally with remaining dressing.

*If using wooden skewers, soak in water at least 30 minutes before using to prevent them from burning.

Ham, Spinach and Pepper Appetizer Rolls

Serves 10 to 12

- 1 Cook's Bone-in Ham (quarter-cut spiral or Ham Steak, approximately 1 pound)
 - 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
 - 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
 - 3 green onions, chopped
 - 6 flour tortillas (8-inch)
 - 18 large spinach leaves, stems removed
 - 1 jar (12 ounces) roasted red peppers, drained, patted dry and cut into thin strips
1. Cook ham according to package directions and dice approximately 2 1/2 cups.
 2. Mix cream cheese, mustard and onions in small bowl until well blended.
 3. Spread evenly onto tortillas, to within 1/4 inch of edges. Cover each tortilla with 3 spinach leaves; pressing lightly into cream cheese mixture to secure. Top with roasted peppers and ham. Roll up tightly; wrap individually in plastic wrap. Refrigerate at least 1 hour, or until chilled.
 4. Remove plastic wrap. Trim ends from roll-ups; discard. Cut each roll-up into 6 pinwheels to serve.

FAMILY FEATURES

It's football season! Each year Americans ceremoniously gather at pre-game tailgate parties, grilling out as they cheer on their favorite teams. This fall, hand off traditional grill grub and tackle some new, mouth-watering ideas for a guaranteed victory! Mix up the playbook by introducing new options such as ham — a perfect warm-up for the hard-hitting, action-packed battles on the gridiron.

Score points with your guests by using a variety of cuts, from hickory smoked ham steaks to quarter cut spiral sliced ham, a smaller version of the traditional spiral sliced half ham. These conveniently packaged portions of ham, easy to place in a cooler, are perfect for any tailgate party. Tossed on the grill or incorporated into a classic dish, you can serve them in so many ways — from salads to casseroles, to mini sandwiches and kabobs.

Winning recipes, including Ham Steak Kabobs and Ham, Spinach and Pepper Appetizer Rolls are sure to please even the most discerning tailgating connoisseur. Versatile and flavorful, Cook's Ham (both boneless and bone-in) offers heat and eat options that are quick and easy to prepare so you can spend more time celebrating victories and less time prepping food.

What's the difference between a boneless ham product and a bone-in ham product? Boneless ham products, above all, are convenient, while bone-in ham is known for its taste and texture. Both are consistently great performers on and off the grill!

Be the MVP of your next game-day gathering. Check out tailgating recipes, grilling tips and tricks, and more information online at www.CooksHam.com.

Ham Steak Grilling Tips

- Bone-in ham steaks serve approximately three to four people.
- Remove ham from wrapper.
- Preheat grill.
- Set grill rack three inches from heat.
- Heat approximately three minutes on each side for ham steaks, or approximately five minutes on each side for thick-cut steaks.
- Heat until product center reaches 160°F (use meat thermometer to be sure). Remove immediately.
- Apply your favorite glaze, if desired. Check out www.CooksHam.com for ideas.

Handling Ham

If serving within seven to 10 days of purchase, keep ham refrigerated. For longer storage, freeze the ham. For best results, use within three months after freezing.

Police blotter

The Big Spring Police Department reported the following activity between 8 a.m. Friday and 8 a.m. Saturday:

- **JIMMY JOE SANCHEZ**, 30, 1810 Old Mill Rd., was arrested on a charge of driving while license invalid.

- **MISTY G. BLATCHFORD**, 43, 611 N. San Antonio, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication.
- **MISTY GAYLE MARTIN**, 28, 305 E. Third, was arrested on three citations.

Support Groups

MONDAY

- Encourager's Support Group for all widows and widowers meets the first and third Monday of the month. For more information, call Nancy Hale at 398-5239.

- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) TX. 21, weight loss support group meets at Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third St. at 5 p.m. TOPS provides members with information, motivation and fellowship in attaining and maintaining their physician-prescribed weight goals. For more information, call Alex at 264-6921 or 1-800 392-8677.

TUESDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. and closed discussion meeting 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.

- The Path, faith-based addiction recovery, meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Tabernacle Ministeries, 1209 Wright St.

- Al-Anon, 615 Settles for family members and friends of alcoholics meets at 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- RSD (Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy, a chronic pain disease), a new support and informative group meets at 213 Circle. Call Lucy at 264-1213 for more information.

- Dual Recovery Anonymous (DRA), 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Howard County Library Basement Community Room. DRA is a 12-step meeting for those who have a desire to stop drinking and/or using drugs and also have a mental or emotional illness.

All meetings are non-smoking and coffee is not available but members can bring their own coffee or non-alcoholic beverage. For more information, call Deidra F. at (432) 816-3033. Leave a message if you get voice mail.

THURSDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m.; women's meeting; 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. Non-smoking closed discussion meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

FRIDAY

- AA open discussion meeting from noon until 1 p.m. at 605 Settles. Open Big Book study meeting, 8 p.m. until 9 p.m.

SATURDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous open discussion meeting, 615 Settles, noon to 1 p.m. Open podium/speakers meeting 615 Settles 8 p.m. until 9 p.m. Open birthday night, no smoking meeting the last Saturday of each month at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Alcoholics Anonymous meets from 11 a.m. to noon at 615 Settles. Open meeting 5 p.m. until 6 p.m.

Take Note

- **THE SENIOR CENTER AT 1901 SIMLER** is going to have a pottery class starting Sept. 6. The group will meet each Thursday at 10 a.m.

- **MARANATHA BAPTIST ACADEMY** still has openings in kindergarten through 12th grade. For more information, call 263-7696 or come by 903 Johnson St.

- **THE PUBLIC IS BEING AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE A PHOTO** of bluebonnets, with proceeds going toward the Boyce Hale Scholarship — a \$500 scholarship presented to a Forsan High School senior. For more information, contact Jimmy Anderson at 264-2546 or go by Professional Pharmacy at 1000 Main St.

- **ST. MARY'S AND FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S ARE HOLDING A LAP BLANKET DRIVE** to place approximately 400 lap blankets in the hands of every nursing home patient in Big Spring. Blankets can be taken to the church office, 1001 Goliad, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday or call Connie Fowler at 267-2713.

A beginning crochet class is being held at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the church's Parish Hall.

- **ALL CREATURES SANCTUARY AND RESCUE** has an account set up with Big Spring Salvage at 3608 N. Hwy. 87 for all types of metals and aluminum cans. Please tell them that your donations are for All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is also still taking weight circles off of all Purina brand dog foods. Send your Purina Weight Circles, to A.C.S. & R. at P.O., 871, Coahoma 79511. All Creatures Sanctuary and Rescue is still accepting old and used cell phones and ink jet cartridges, for drop off locations in Big Spring and Coahoma, Call Melanie at 267-7387.

- **CHRIST COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING INFANT CAR SEATS AND CARRIERS.** These are given to new mothers who cannot afford

them. To donate your old or new car seats and carriers, call Karen Allen at 263-3517 or leave a message at Christ Community Fellowship, 263-love. All donations are appreciated.

- **ROAD TO RECOVERY**, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, seeks volunteers to drive cancer patients to treatment in Midland. This requires just a few hours commitment each month. To volunteer, or to request a ride for treatment, call Nancy Koger at 267-7809.

- **NEW LIFE MINISTRIES** Church of God In Christ is holding a soup kitchen every second and fourth Tuesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 204 N.W. 10th. The meal is free. Call 264-0771 for more information.

- **THE PET PATROL** helps locate lost pets and owners of found pets. To volunteer or for more information, call Melanie Gambrell at 267-PETS (7387).

- **ODYSSEY HOSPICE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS** to work in the office and perform patient services. For more information or to volunteer, call 263-5999.

- **LEGAL AID OF NORTHWEST TEXAS** is accepting appointments from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month. Individuals seeking legal advice for matters concerning family law, divorce, custody and child support issues, social security cases, employment and housing may contact the office to schedule an appointment. Criminal cases are not accepted. Anyone recently served with legal documents should call the office immediately at 800-926-5630 or 432-686-0647.

- **BIG SPRING AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES** are in critical need of foster families. Foster parents are the caretakers for the children in the community who have been abused or neglected. For more information on becoming foster parents or adoptive families, call the Children's Protective Services office at 263-9669.

Bulletin Board

If you have items for the Bulletin board, contact the Herald news room at 263-7331 or email editor@bigspringherald.com

MONDAY

- Keep Big Spring Beautiful meets at noon in the Cactus Room at Howard College.
- District Committee Lone Star of Big Spring meets at noon at 610 Scurry.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. 21 meets at 5 p.m. in the Dora Roberts Rehabilitation Center, 306 W. Third for weigh-in. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. Call 1-800-392-8677 or 263-0391 or 263-1758.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) No. TX 1756 meets in the First Christian Church of Big Spring, 911 Goliad. A different program is offered every week. Enter through the south side door off 10th Street. Call 213-1342 for more information. Weigh-in starts at 5 p.m.; meetings begin at 5:30 p.m.
- Evening Lions Club meets at 6:45 p.m. at Dragon China Buffett.
- Howard County ARC meets at 806 E. Third in the

Weather

Sunday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s. East winds around 10 mph.
 Sunday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the lower 60s. East winds around 10 mph in the evening becoming light and variable.
 Labor day...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. East winds around 10 mph. Chance of Precipitation 20 percent.
 Monday night...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.
 Tuesday...Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.
 Tuesday night...Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Lows in the mid 60s.
 Wednesday...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 80s. Chance of precipitation 20 percent.
 Wednesday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the mid 60s.
 Thursday...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s.
 Thursday night...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 60s.
 Friday...Partly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s.

Lottery

Four winning tickets were sold — one in each of four states — for a Mega Millions jackpot worth an estimated \$330 million, lottery officials said early Saturday. The winning tickets from Friday night's drawing were sold in Maryland, New Jersey, Texas and Virginia. If estimates of the jackpot hold true, it would be the fourth-largest in the lottery's history. It was known as The Big Game when it awarded jackpots of \$363 million in 2000 and \$331 million in 2002. The winning numbers from Friday night's drawing were: 8, 18, 22, 40 and 44. The Mega Ball number was 11.

Results of the Cash 5 drawing Friday night:
 Winning numbers drawn: 3-10-11-21-26.
 Number matching five of five: 0.
 Next Cash 5 drawing: Saturday night.

The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday night by the Texas Lottery, in order: 9-1-9

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24th Annual Baby Contest & Beauty Pageant
 America's Cover Miss & Cover Boy, USA

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Event Location
SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 22, 2007
BIG SPRING MALL
1:00 PM

A special tour for a special event.

BirthPlace Tour:
 Monday, September 10 at 7:00pm

For over fifty years, little Midlanders and their families have called Midland Memorial Hospital home. Meet us at the first floor lobby to take part in our special BirthPlace Tour. Visit our Postpartum, Labor, Delivery, Nursery, and our unique Breast Feeding Shoppe, Beautiful Beginnings. Meet our outstanding staff and find out what to expect when your special time arrives.

The smallest details matter most to us. Labor, Delivery, Recovery, and Beautiful Beginnings in The BirthPlace at Midland Memorial Hospital West Campus.

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STEERS

Continued from Page 1B

quarter, following a fumble recovery by Quentin Ausbie at midfield. Big Spring would ensue on a 15-play drive that ended at the Odessa 24-yard line. McCalister had taken the ball down to the seven on a reverse, but the run was nulled by a Steers' block in the back downfield.

Wideout Sidney Parker Jr. had broken free in the end zone on the ensuing fourth-down play, but Nathan Doporto's pass sailed just out of his reach.

Odessa took over and put together a 12-play drive that ended with a Teegarden 15-yard touchdown pass to Javorian Guyton, allowing the Bronchos to extend their lead, 17-0.

Despite spending most of the first half on their own end of the field, the Steers' defense never gave Odessa an easy score. Twice they held the Bronchos to field goal attempts and had forced them backwards before Teegarden's touchdown pass.

"We played a very physical game on defense in the first half," said Ritchey. "The defense kept us in the game.

They did a good job of responding to adversity and gave us a chance to be competitive. We just couldn't take advantage of it on offense."

However, Odessa would strike quickly in the second half, making another field goal on the opening drive. The Bronchos again took advantage of Steers' mistake, recovering a fumble on the ensuing kickoff.

Eventually Odessa fullback Kody Tennon would punch in another touchdown from one yard out, pushing the lead to 27-0.

The Steers wouldn't get on the board until the fourth quarter. Down 34-0 following another Teegarden touchdown throw, sophomore running back Monte Anderson broke free following an option toss from Tannehill for a 29-yard touchdown run. It turned out to be the Steers only points of the game.

Teegarden added one last touchdown — a 9-yard run off the right side — taking advantage of Big Spring's third fumble of the game.

Odessa more than doubled Big Spring's offensive output — 422-155.

Anderson led the Steers on the ground, racking up 119 yards on 19 carries.

Tannehill had 41 yards on three of four passing and Kaegan Hunt led Big Spring with 29 yards receiving.

Defensively, the Steers sacked Odessa's quarterbacks three times and Cade Holladsworth led the team with nine tackles. Parker had four tackles and two pass deflections and Justin Amaro had six tackles with a sack.

The Steers will look to rebound from the season-opening loss when they visit San Angelo Central's Bobcats Friday.

"I still believe in this team. We didn't quit at all," said Ritchey. "We've got to keep playing a physical style of defense. We've got to put together a plan that's going to make us a better football team."

Contact Sports Editor Jonathan Hull by calling 263-7331, ext. 237, or by e-mailing him at sports@bigspringherald.com.

Cowboys ready to play one that counts

The Associated Press

IRVING — The next game counts for the Dallas Cowboys. The evaluation period is over, including the preseason finale in which only six starters played.

While coach Wade Phillips and other team officials worked Friday to determine which 22 players would be cut to get the Cowboys to their 53-man roster limit by Saturday's deadline, quarterback Tony Romo and other starters finally got to focus on the season opener against the NFC East rival New York Giants.

"Now it is time. Everything counts," Romo said. "I think it is about that time of year for a lot of fun to start, so we are excited."

Romo, in recent years a primary quarterback for the Cowboys in late preseason games, sat out the 23-14 loss at Minnesota on Thursday night.

After replacing Drew Bledsoe as the starter midway through last season, Romo earned a Pro Bowl spot and firmly established himself as Dallas' No. 1 quarterback. He was 35-of-51 passing (69 percent) for 412 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions this preseason.

The only quarterback

questions are if Matt Moore or Richard Bartel will be No. 3 behind Romo and Brad Johnson — and if the No. 3 guy is put on the 53-man roster or the practice squad, though the later option would expose them to other teams.

One of the most significant decisions will be whether to keep veteran kicker Martin Gramatica, who missed the finale with a strained right hamstring after missing an extra point and a long field goal in the preseason. Rookie kicker Nick Folk made all three of his field goals, including a 52-yarder, and was solid on kickoffs.

Phillips used the final preseason game mostly to evaluate backup players and others who were on the fringe of making the team.

"We have been pointing toward the season. That is some of the reasons that we didn't play some of the guys because I think they are ready to play," Phillips said.

"We played the guys that I thought that we needed to play to find out where we were and where they were. Some of them stepped up and made plays," he said. "We made it a little easier (to evaluate) by playing these guys

as much as we did." With starting cornerback Terence Newman uncertain for the Sept. 9 opener because of a slight tear in the tissue that runs across the base of his foot, there are concerns about depth in the secondary.

Newman missed the last three preseason games.

The Cowboys played without both starting corners against the Vikings, with Anthony Henry getting a break like most of the starters.

Aaron Glenn, the veteran No. 3 cornerback who is a potential starter for Newman, and Jacques Reeves started against the Vikings. Joey Thomas, Alan Ball, Nate Jones and Quincy Butler also got their turns.

"Our corners played better, especially early in the game," Phillips said. "I will have to analyze everything on tape to see exactly what happened. ... I am still one that watches tape and finds exactly what they did and what kind of techniques they used."

Notes: WR Terry Glenn is expected to return to practice Saturday. ... The Cowboys still aren't sure of the status of linebacker Greg Ellis, who didn't play in the preseason.

To submit a sports item call 263-7331, ext. 237.

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Anniversary



Ruiz 50th wedding anniversary

The Ruiz family proudly proclaims the celebration of Pete and Stella's 50th wedding anniversary.

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ties and the accumulation of many dear friends.

Pete and Stella celebrated this special day at K.C. Steakhouse with family members all the way from California and family members deep in the heart of Texas.

Births



Hagan Ryan Pitchford

Hagan Ryan Pitchford, a boy, was born at 3:17 p.m. July 9, 2007, weighing 5 pounds, 8 ounces and was 18 1/2 inches long.

He is the son of Matt and Stephanie Pitchford of Big Spring. His maternal grandparents are Marty and Donna Whetsel of Forsan. His paternal grandparents are Alvin and Gail Pitchford of Millsap.

...

Audrina Faith Juarez, a girl, was born at 8:09 a.m. Aug., 24, 2007, weighing 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 inches long.

She is the daughter of Katrina Bustamante and Donny Juarez of Big Spring. Her maternal grandparents are

Jackie Long of Big Spring and George Bustamante of Abilene. Her paternal grandparents are Elida and Joe Juarez, both of Big Spring.

Audrina was welcomed home by big sister Selena.



Reqa Nicole Yanez

Reqa Nicole Yanez, a girl, was born at 5:17 p.m. July 26, 2007, weighing 5 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19 inches long.

She is the daughter of Ariel Fuento and Ricky Yanez of Big Spring. Her maternal grandparents are Teresa Rangel of Big Spring and Enrique Fuentes of San Antonio. Her paternal grandparents are Prospero and Sally Yanez of Big Spring.

Menus

Senior Center

Monday: Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday: Smothered steak, mixed vegetables, parsleyed noodles, cherry pink cloud, whole wheat rolls.

Wednesday: Chicken spaghetti, harvard beets, garlic toast, green salad, scalloped apples.

Thursday: Turkey and gravy, toast, butter beans,

macaroni salad calico, carrot cake.

Friday: Catfish, coleslaw, fries, beans, applesauce bars, cornbread

Big Spring ISD

Monday: Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, English peas, wheat roll, pineapple tid-bits, milk

Wednesday: Pig in a blanket, green beans, mac and cheese, watermelon slice, milk

Thursday: Chicken fajita, border beans, Spanish rice, pear halves, tortilla, milk

Friday: Cheeseburger, salas, pickle slices, oven fries, P/B cookies, milk

See MENUS, Page 3C

Jacquelyn Molina

Bride Elect Of

Chris Mulkey



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DRIVING

Continued from Page 1A

es by mail or Internet. They also must submit to a mandatory vision test. And drivers 85 and older will need to renew every two years, rather than six.

"This is something that is greatly needed," said Rick Bolka, Katie's father. "Driving an automobile is an awesome responsibility. A lot of people think you have a right to drive and in reality you don't. The way Katie's life was taken, we recognized there was a true need for legislative change with respect to elderly drivers."

Texas joins other states that have elderly driver restrictions, many of which require vision tests and to renew licenses more often.

Texas has more than 480,000 drivers age 79 and older, some of whom will likely complain about the change, said 82-year-old

Frank Burke of Austin, although he thinks it's probably a good idea.

"I sort of resent it but I can see the reason for it. As we get older, our reflexes can get slower," Burke said. "We are the last people who will accept it for themselves."

Burke's license won't be up for renewal until 2010 when he'll be 85. He said he and his 80-year-old wife both have accident-free records and he considers himself a better driver "than the folks who keep cutting me off."

Katie's Law is a sensitive issue for members of the AARP in Texas. The organization supported the bill but also tried to strike a balance between helping seniors maintain their independence and to recognize when it's time to get off the road.

"The bottom line for us is we want safer roads for all Texans," said Texas AARP spokesman Rafael Ayuso.

"People are living longer, more productive,

more mobile lives," Ayuso said. "It's controversial because it incites passions on both sides. Our roads should be safe and mobility should be preserved without compromising public safety."

If the state is going to restrict senior drivers, it should help them stay mobile by boosting public transit, he said.

AARP has a safety program to help seniors recognize when their driving skills are deteriorating. Warning signs include difficulty concentrating or judging distances and trouble seeing the sides of the road when driving straight ahead.

"These are warning signs that may indicate when you or your loved ones should no longer be driving," Ayuso said.

Based on a review of crashes in Connecticut, the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety reported in March that 58 percent of intersection crashes involving drivers 80 or older were the result of a

failure to yield, many times because they didn't see an oncoming car or stop sign.

The new Texas law for older drivers requires only a vision test on renewals, not a new driving test. Current law already allows the state to require a new driving test if a family member or officer believes a driver may have physical or mental health problems that make driving dangerous.

Forcing elderly drivers to renew in person may help officials recognize a

problem, Bolka said.

"That's important. The more frequent renewals are, the better chance to identify drivers who are unfit for the road," Bolka said.

The loss of a license may be as much a psychological struggle as a practical one for some seniors.

Burke said his mother became depressed when she was forced to give up her license in her early

80s about three years before she died. But he also sees drivers at the senior center he attends that he believes could be hazardous on the road.

"Some will resent it," Burke said. "I think the logical ones will accept it."

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HC

Continued from Page 1A

Institute for the Deaf — 118.

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"And we're expecting even more enrollments within the next few weeks," Sparks said. "We believe San Angelo's numbers will be up significantly next week — and SWCID is already above last year."

The biggest increase has come locally, where enrollment at the Big Spring campus is already 31 students above last year's figures. San Angelo

reported about 60 fewer students than last fall, but officials are expecting a boost to those figures once concurrent enrollment figures are complete in the next couple of weeks.

Sparks said college officials are examining the numbers closely, trying to spot a trend.

"The increase seems to be coming from traditional age students as well as from dual-credit (high school students taking Howard courses)," Sparks said. "This is something we'll be analyzing next week."

Sparks added that stu-

dent recruitment efforts seem to be paying off.

"That was part of a very strategic plan of ours," she said. "We always emphasize recruiting, but we really worked on it this year. We had intensified efforts starting back in May, and those efforts have paid off."

Final enrollment figures for the fall semester should be available within the next week or two, she added.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

CONCERT

Continued from Page 1A

Dvorak with Symphony No. 9, Op. 95 "The New World," and guest violoncello Jeffrey Lastrappes.

— "An Evening of Broadway," April 26, 2008, featuring soprano Renay

Jobert.

Season tickets are available at First Bank of West Texas, Fayer Flowers, Blum's Jewelers, the Heritage Museum, Big Spring Area Chamber of Commerce and the Big Spring Herald.

Season tickets are \$50 for adults, \$30 for senior citizens and \$15 for stu-

dents. The packet includes four tickets that may be used at any concert.

Individual concert tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students.

"I'm excited about our concert series and I hope the public will be, too," said Graumann.


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September 4 * Tuesday • Mall Walking - 8:00 AM • Coffee @ PRL - 10:00 AM • Supper Club Al's BBQ - 5:30 PM	September 12 * Wednesday • Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 AM • BEN E. KEITH FOOD SHOW 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
September 5 * Wednesday • Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 AM	September 13 * Thursday • Mall Walking - 8:00 AM • Coffee @ Just Peachy Cafe - 10:00 AM
September 6 * Thursday • Mall Walking - 8:00 AM • Coffee @ Just Peachy Cafe - 10:00 AM • BUNKO- 5:00 PM	September 17 * Monday • Hobbs, New Mexico Casino Trip - 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM
September 7 * Friday • Lunch Bunch and Birthday's Just Peachy - 11:30 AM	September 18 * Tuesday • Mall Walking - 8:00 AM • Supper Club Hunan's - 5:30 PM
September 9 * Sunday • HAPPY GRAND PARENTS' DAY!	September 19 * Wednesday • Senior Appreciation Day - 11:30 AM • Lunch-N-Learn - 11:30 AM
September 10 * Monday • GAMES - 1:00 - 3:00 PM	

Leon Hobbs, from Cowboy's Steakhouse, has graciously invited Senior Circle group to the Abilene Food Show on September 12. Anyone wishing to rake a ride to Abilene and sample lots of new food products are welcome to reserve a slot by calling 268-4721 by September 7. This is a "Reservations Only" event and is open to Senior Circle members only.

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Harrison, Wilson admit using growth hormones

By **JIMMY GOLEN**

AP Sports Writer

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Rodney Harrison, the frequently fined strong safety who solidified the New England Patriots' defense through back-to-back Super Bowl victories, will miss the first four games of the NFL season for violating the league's substance abuse policy.

"Tomorrow, the commissioner will announce I have been suspended," a somber Harrison said in a hastily announced conference call with reporters on Friday night after ESPN.com reported that he had admitted obtaining human growth hormone.

Harrison did not take questions or confirm the banned substance involved.

"I want to make it clear that not once did I ever use steroids," he said. "I did admit to the commissioner that I did, in fact, use a banned substance."

The league issued a statement late Friday night confirming that Harrison is suspended without pay for four games, effective immediately. He is eligible to return to the active roster on Tuesday, Oct. 2, following the previous night's game against the Cincinnati Bengals, the league said.

The NFL, meanwhile, confirmed that Wade

Wilson, currently the Cowboys' quarterback coach, also admitted to NFL officials that he received illegal drugs. The NFL announced his suspension on Saturday.

According to the New York Daily News, Wilson admitted receiving HGH while working for the Chicago Bears from 2004-06. The league said that Harrison, Wilson and Richard Ryzde, a former doctor for the Pittsburgh Steelers, were involved in an internet drug operation being investigated by the Albany (N.Y.) District Attorney's office.

Ryzde was fired by the Steelers. League spokesman Greg Aiello said Saturday that those three were the people affiliated with the NFL involved with the operation.

The Patriots, who lost in the AFC championship game to the Indianapolis Colts last season, are considered favorites to reach the Super Bowl after a series of strong offseason acquisitions, including Adalius Thomas and Randy Moss. Harrison apologized for becoming a distraction to his team.

"I will be absent from the team for the next four weeks. That is a penalty that I have to serve. I intend to return and do my best to really help this team in any capacity I can help this team get back to winning the championship," Harrison said.

FORSAN

Continued from Page 1B

reeled off a 14-play, 65-yard drive, giving them their first score of the season.

Most impressive on the drive, according to Thompson, was the Buffs' converting two fourth-down plays to keep the drive alive.

"We had to get something going in our favor because we were getting killed in the field position battle," said Thompson. "Both fourth downs were within a yard and we got great pushes to reach the markers. I really believe that drive will be something the kids can look back on next week and build something positive."

On the drive, the Buffs were finally able to get a running game going as junior, Jeremy Frietag and junior Jace Sandridge hit the holes hard and quick, picking up positive yardage.

With a first and 10 from the Kermit 15-yard line, junior quarterback Alex Huckabee scrambled, trying to find senior Adam Bailey in the end zone, but the ball was knocked away.

However on second down, Sandridge found a hole and pounded down to the Yellow Jackets' five, giving the Buffs first and goal.

Following a Huckabee incompleting, Frietag took the ball outside and ran into the end zone untouched as the Buffs closed the halftime margin to 14-7.

"Our offensive line did one heck of a job sustaining their blocks and creating holes," said Thompson.

"Their aggressiveness and the way our backs hit the holes with speed were the reason for our success on that drive. It felt great to cross that goal line. After the goal line stop at the end of the first half, we really felt the momentum swinging."

However, trouble with the ensuing kickoff gave Kermit great field position again as they started with the ball on the Forsan 42-yard line.

Eight plays later, Kermit running back Chris Pando found pay dirt from 22-yards out, taking back the momentum and ultimately the game with 1:42 left in the third.

"That hurt us and sucked a lot of wind out of our sails," Thompson said. "We had just scored ourselves and could have stayed in the game by taking it right back to them. We lost some of the fire we had coming out after the half."

With the Buffs desperately trying to fight their way back, they went for it on a fourth down deep in their own territory. This time they were not successful and Kermit was able to use the short field and make their way to a 28-7 lead as the Jackets' quarterback Aaron Grubbs scored on

a keeper.

The Yellow Jackets were able to pin Forsan deep on their last two drives with the final attempt resulting in a safety, giving Kermit the 30-7 victory.

Final totals showed the Buffs with 29 total yards while the Jackets gained 296 yards in total offense.

Frietag led Forsan with 34 yards and a touchdown on 17 rushes. Thompson praised the play of Aaron Hughes, Anthony Neighbors and Ryan Flores on defense.

"Right now our defense is ahead of our offense on where we need to be as a team. They gave us a fighting chance tonight," said Thompson. "We were just unable to get anything going on offense. But one thing I was happy to see was that there was no quit on our team tonight."

The Buffaloes will try and chalk up their first win next week at home against Seagraves.

COAHOMA

Continued from Page 1B

seven scores in between the Bulldogs' two scores. The Owls ended up outgaining Coahoma 522 to 193 in total yards.

Running back P.J. Daylong led Coahoma with 95 yards on 23 carries. Garcia was four of 17 for 54 yards.

The Bulldogs play their home opener Friday against Roscoe's Plowboys. Kennedy says

the Bulldogs will have to be ready for a team very similar to Reagan County.

"Roscoe is almost a carbon copy of Reagan County except they might be a little more athletic at some positions," he explained. "We've got to continue to improve on what we're doing. We're not going to make any changes with what we want to accomplish on each side of the ball. We just have to get better at what we're doing in order to win."

AREA

Continued from Page 1B

return with 6:13 left in the half. Fields would score again less than three minutes later, courtesy of a 17-yard pass from Rivas.

Rodriguez would give Grady a 52-8 lead at the half when he scored from 9-yards out just before time expired.

Jon Ramirez would score Grady's game ending touchdown, plunging into the end zone for a 1-yard score that halted the game with 4:55 left in the third quarter.

The Wildcats will look to continued their first

week success Friday on the road against Whiteface.

Grape Creek 27, Stanton 21

GRAPE CREEK — It was a night of missed opportunities for Stanton's Buffaloes. Unfortunately, those missed opportunities cost them the game.

Grape Creek's Eagles managed to hold on and defeat the Buffs 27-21 Friday, courtesy of several red zone stands by its defense.

"We were moving the ball well, but just couldn't cash it in," said Stanton Head Coach Lee McCown. "It doesn't do any good to

move the ball down the field if you can't put it in the end zone. They stood us up a couple of times on the goal line."

The two teams traded two touchdowns a piece in the first half with Grape Creek scoring first and Stanton answering each time.

Tie 14-all heading into the second half, Stanton had an opportunity to score first and take the lead. However, quarterback Garrett Fulton threw an interception inside the Grape Creek 15-yard line that was returned to the Stanton three. The Eagles would score just one play later, reversing the Buffs' for-

tunes.

"We did a lot of things well, but just not well enough," said McCown. "We were in position to take control of the game, but couldn't make the plays that we needed to make."

The Buffs hope to regroup Friday against a Reagan County team that blitzed district-rival Coahoma in zero week, 52-14. McCown knows next week's test won't be easy.

"Reagan County has a strong team this season," said McCown. "We have to go in and regroup this week and make sure we're fully prepared."

BRIEFS

Continued from Page 1B

tion dates, a late registration day will be Saturday. Cost is \$40 for flag football and \$100 for tackle.

Any cheerleaders who will not need a uniform can sign-up for \$35. The cost is \$100 if a new uniform is needed.

All children going into kindergarten through sixth grade can register.

For more information, contact Daphne Coates at

714-4688.

Big Spring Boxing Club seeking site

The Big Spring Boxing Club is seeking a building to be donated so that they can get started with their program.

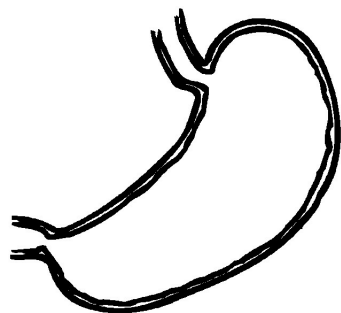
Heavy bags, gloves, head gear and other equipment has been donated, but the club needs a place to begin practices.

Contact Willie Jenkins at 267-5822.

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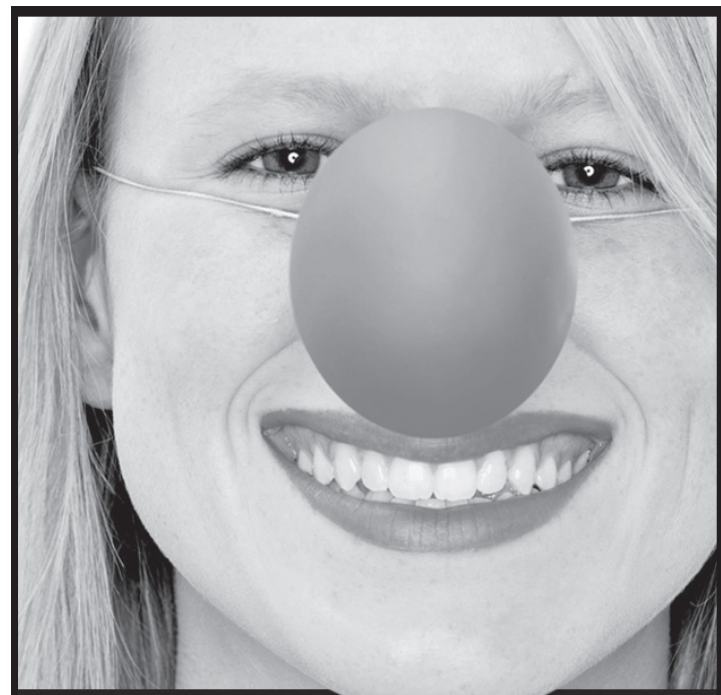
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Anniversary



Brown 50th wedding anniversary

Van and Glendia Brown of Big Spring celebrated their 50th anniversary with a dinner party hosted by their children. The couple will take an Alaskan Cruise.

Van was born in Hamilton, Miss. Glendia Jackson was born in Abilene.

Van was one of the first airmen to come to Abilene in 1955 to help open Dyess Air Force Base. Glendia's parents farmed at the edge of the base.

They met through mutual friends at Casey's Drive Inn in Abilene in 1956. Van and Glendia

wed on Aug. 24, 1957, at Caps Baptist Church in Abilene.

They have two sons, Robert Brown of Phoenix, Ariz., and Rodney Brown of Fort Worth, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

During their marriage, the couple have lived in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Midland and in Big Spring for the past 42 years.

Van was in the U.S. Air Force for eight years, then served as a U.S. postal worker for 31 years.

He also owned and operated Brown Fence Co.

until 1999. He is employed by the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Company.

Glendia is employed with Southwestern Bell and retired from the Big Spring Independent School District.

They attend College Baptist Church. Glendia volunteers at Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

She enjoys volunteering and spending time with her grandchildren.

The couple's comment about their 50-year, strong marriage: "Our faith in God helped our marriage last for 50 years."



Dunnam 50th wedding anniversary

On Aug. 27, 1957, Charles Dunnam and the former Jolene Reynolds were married at Baptist Temple Church in Big Spring by the Rev. A.R. Posey. They met in study hall/library while attending Big Spring High School and later became sweethearts. Their first date was to a yearbook signing party. Shortly after graduation they married. Their love and friendship continues to grow each day.

The Dunnams have three children, Craig Dunnam and wife Carie of Big Spring, Jill Mize and husband Johnny of Amarillo and Clark Dunnam of Midland.

They have seven grandchildren and have lived in Big Spring their entire married life.

The parents of Charles and Jolene were Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Reynolds and Mr. and Mrs. Grady Dunnam of Big Spring.

Charles and Jolene enjoy watching Texas Rangers baseball, fishing, traveling and looking forward to the entire family gatherings at Lake L.B.J. as they have for the past 27 years. Watching the grandchildren participate in sports and their school activities is always something they have been involved with and continue to enjoy doing.

Charles worked for

First National Bank for 18 years, then acquired Ackerly Oil Company. Later, he established Trio Fuels Inc. After more than 30 years in the business, it was sold and the Dunnams are enjoying their retirement. In the first years of marriage Jolene worked at Lynn's Jewelers and the city of Big Spring Tax Department, then chose to stay home and raise their family.

Charles and Jolene attend First Baptist church, where they have been members since 1975.

A reception will be hosted by their children, their spouses and the grandchildren.

MENUS

Continued from Page 2C

Forsan ISD
Monday: Holiday
Tuesday: Breakfast, cereal
Nutrigrain bars, juice, milk;
Lunch, pizza, seasoned corn,
tossed salad, sliced peaches,
milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast,
muffins, juice, milk; Lunch,
baked potato, baby carrots
w/ranch, Texas toast, fresh
fruit, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast,
sausage-on-stick, juice, milk;
Lunch, chicken nuggets,
mashed potatoes, gravy,
green beans, hot rolls, fancy
gelatin, milk.

Friday: Breakfast, muffins,
juice, milk; Lunch, corn dogs,
oven fries, baked beans,
apples, Rice Crispy treat, milk.

Coahoma ISD
Monday: Holiday
Tuesday: Breakfast, pan-
cakes, sausage, syrup,
orange juice, milk; Lunch,
pizza, salad, oranges, milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast,
Poptarts, ham, apple juice,
milk; Lunch, taco salad, fruit
cups, milk, corn dogs.

Thursday: Breakfast, bis-
cuits, gravy, sausage, jelly,
grape juice, milk; Lunch,
McRib's, potato salad, peach-
es, bread, milk, sloppy Joes.

Friday: Breakfast, oatmeal,
sausage, juice, variety of
juice; Lunch, hamburgers,
salad trays, chips, apple

slices, milk.

Sands CISD
Monday: Breakfast, biscuits,
sausage, juice & milk; Lunch,
pizza hoice, seasoned corn,
tossed salad, sliced peaches,
milk.

Tuesday: Breakfast, peanut
butter and Jelly, juice & milk;
Lunch, stuffed-baked pota-
toes, baby carrots w/ranch,
fresh fruit cups, Texas toast,
milk.

Wednesday: Breakfast,

donuts, juice, & milk; Lunch,
oven crispy chicken strips,
mashed potatoes/gravy,
green beans, hot rolls, fancy
gelatin, milk.

Thursday: Breakfast, break-
fast pizza, juice & milk; Lunch,
Nachos Grande, lettuce &
tomatoes, orange smiles,
cornbread, milk.

Friday: Breakfast, honey-
bun, juice & milk; Lunch, corn-
dogs, oven-fried potatoes,
fresh broccoli w/ranch, sparkly
apple, cookies, milk.

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Howard County Fair 2007

September 26-29, 2007
4-10 pm weekdays, 10 am-10 pm Saturday

Entries for Creative Arts, Fine Arts, Baked Goods, Canned Goods, Antiques and other items for display will be accepted from 8 am - 6 pm, September 25.
Antique category: Cookbooks over 25 years old (published prior to 1982)

.....

Entries will be judged the evening of September 25 and must remain on display throughout the fair. They may be picked up after 10 pm September 29 or between 1 pm and 4 pm September 30.

Information and entry forms for all Fair events: www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com

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QUEEN CONTEST

Date: September 15, 2007 Location: Dora Roberts Community Center
Preliminaries (classes, etc.) - 9 a.m.
Pageant begins at 1 pm. Public is invited to attend.

Entry forms available at: Posey Cotton, 601 Scurry - before noon
County Extension Office, Court House
At www.howardcountyfairoftexas.com

NOTE: Entrants must have a sponsor. It costs \$35 to sponsor a girl.
Information: Nancy Howard 353-4448 (No answer, leave message)

.....

QUILT

Theme: "Wildlife of Texas".
On Display: Spring City Senior Center, 1901 Simler • 7 am - 3 pm, Monday-Friday
Chances: \$ each or 6 for \$5. (Proceeds used defray expenses of the Fair.)
Drawing: Saturday, 9:45 p.m.

SCRAPBOOKING

Rules:
Size: 12x12. Must be in a protector sheet. Journal and decorate
Must have name, address and phone number on the back of page or inside protector sleeve.
Theme: Where, What, When, Who
Judged on creativity, originality, presentation and journaling

.....

Fair Contests/Displays/Events

Fine Art
Drawing, graphics, oils, acrylics, water color, mixed media, sculpture, pottery, computer, oil on wood

Photography
Grandparents' Corner, "Kids Do the Darndest Things" photo contest, "Favorite Family Pet" photo contest.

Canned Goods
Fruits, vegetables, pickles and relishes, jams, jellies, preserves, dried food products, juice/syrup, peppers, salsa/hot sauce, miscellaneous

Creative Arts
Hobbies and crafts, handwork and needlework, clothing

Grandparents' Corner
Photographs

Favorite Family Pet
Photographs

Poetry
Three youth divisions

"Kids Do the Darndest Things"
Funny photos of children, at least 3x5 inches in size

Antique Cookbooks
Must be published prior to 1982

Children's Fair
Pre-K through 4th grades - Theme: It's a Jungle Out There - Classroom or individual projects

Antique Tractors
Call Gene Adams at 263-4853 if you'd like to display your antique tractor.

Antique Tractor Pull
Pulling tractors must be 1960 or older

Kountry Kids Contest
Kids 0-5 years old, dressed in denim at least 50% cotton. \$10 entry fee.

Queen Contest
Contestants must have a sponsor. Sponsorship is \$35. All high school and college age girls from Howard County are eligible.

EDITORIAL

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

Ron Midkiff
Publisher

John A. Moseley
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

CASA needing new volunteers to change lives

Do you love children? Would you like to make a difference in the life of a child? There are many adults willing to go to bat for a child as a Little League or Little Dribblers coach. We applaud those men and women who volunteer their time to help mold our children through physical skills and teamwork. Our plea today, however, is adults willing to go to bat in a different way — in court, if need be.

A Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) is a man or woman who stands up for the rights of abused or neglected children. Literally, CASA volunteers can be the most important person in a child's life. The volunteer — appointed by a judge — provides factual information on behalf of a young boy or girl caught in the legal process.

In other words, the CASA volunteer acts as the eyes and ears of the court, visiting children in their placement at least once a month, staying in contact with counselors and other service providers. As a result, they can get a complete picture of changes being made to provide children with a safe and nurturing environment.

If that sounds demanding, that's because it can be. However, becoming a CASA volunteer isn't something you go into blindly. Volunteers are required to participate in training. This assures that CASA advocates have an understanding of "what it takes" and how to represent the children for whom they will serve as advocates.

The need for CASA advocates here in Howard County is great. According to Dedi Roundtree, volunteer coordinator for the program, there are currently 31 cases affecting 50 children that CASA is handling.

To effectively handle that caseload, CASA needs 22 trained volunteers. Unfortunately, at this time the program has just seven volunteers to handle the load. That means at least 15 new volunteers are needed.

We encourage you to consider becoming a CASA volunteer. To learn more about the program, call Roundtree at (877) 316-8346. Training sessions begin Tuesday and Oct. 29.

If you think you have the desire and what it takes, please call Roundtree today. A child's future could hang in the balance.

HOW TO CONTACT US

The Herald is always interested in our readers' opinions. In order that we might better serve your needs, we offer several ways in which you may contact us:

- In person at 710 Scurry St.
- By telephone at 263-7331
- By fax at 264-7205
- By e-mail Managing Editor John A. Moseley at editor@bigspringherald.com or News Editor Bill McClellan at newsdesk@bigspringherald.com.
- By mail at P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721

LETTER POLICIES

- The Herald welcomes letters to the editor.
- Limit your letters to no more than 300 words.
 - Sign your letter.
 - Provide a daytime telephone number, as well as a street address for verification purposes.
 - We reserve the right to edit for style and clarity.
 - We reserve the right to limit publication to one letter per 30-day period per author.
 - Letters that are unsigned or do not include a telephone number or address will not be considered.
 - Letters should be submitted to Editor, Big Spring Herald, P.O. Box 1431, Big Spring, 79721. They can also be e-mailed to editor@bigspringherald.com

A SMALL PRAYER

by K. Rae Anderson

The right time to serve You, Lord, is anytime.

Amen

Sheer surprise gets best of you

Have you ever read or heard something so audacious — so blatantly skewed toward corporate greed — that you didn't even get mad? A time when your anger failed you out of sheer surprise?

That's the feeling I'm left with after reading a recent letter to the editor from Alon USA officials regarding the oil company's pending litigation with the Howard County Tax Appraisal District.

If you're like me, all the fancy terms and rates — coupled with more corporate gobbledygook from both sides of the fence — make it tough to wrap your head around the situation. However, when you break things down to their simplest form, the truth — which I imagine at least one side in this matter is terrified of — becomes abundantly clear.

Here's the rundown. The tax appraisal district, which is charged with putting a dollar amount on property values for big-time businesses and small-time home owners alike, appraised the Big Spring Refinery at \$320 million this year.

Much like last year, when Alon USA appealed its \$260 million valuation and had it cut in half to \$130 million (which is now tied up in litigation and still hasn't been paid in full), the company cried foul.

It told the appeals board it simply shouldn't have to pay taxes on \$320 million because its value is really — remember now, this is their version of things — just \$152 million.

And, after offering that \$152 million value to the appraisal board as their true and reasonable value, they are now going to pay taxes on a little more than half of that — \$80 million — until litigation is settled, hopefully sometime before I begin collecting my Social

Security. If you apply the county's roll-back tax rate of 42.3974 cents per \$100 valuation to Alon's \$320 million valuation, you come up with a tax of slightly more than \$1.35 million. Of course, this is before any credits or any other tax loop holes are applied.

So we're looking at \$1.35 million, right?

Now, if you apply that same formula to what Alon has agreed to pay taxes on — \$80 million — then you come up with \$339,000. That's more than \$1 million less than what the county was counting on, and more importantly, what the county is due.

And that, at least to my account, is the no bull-corn assessment of where we are in this.

According to Joe Conciencie, senior vice president for refining and supply for Alon USA, there's still a silver lining to this cloud.

"The good news is that it doesn't have to be this way," Conciencie, along with Big Spring Refinery Manager David Foster, writes. "We can, as a community, resolve the valuation issue and thus help resolve the financial challenges at the school district, the college and Howard County. And it is not too late.

"Other community leaders in Texas have seen fit to come together with refineries and decide what is a fair value. So can we."

I'm sure Joe and David meant well with this statement, but it sounds suspiciously to me like "let's compromise and do it my way." Pretty audacious, if you ask me. Almost as shocking as the price of gasoline the local 7-Eleven convenience stores — also owned by Alon USA — are charging.

And, in the end, who is going to have to make up the shortfall created by Alon's unwillingness to pay its taxes, even on the amount they recently presented to the appeal board as justified?

County taxpayers, that's who. County commissioners are mov-

ing forward with a budget and tax rate that's artificially high in hopes of making up for the loss. That includes approximately \$700,000 in the form of a hike in the tax rate and more than \$300,000 in budget cuts that will translate into layoffs for county employees.

Being a single father and having recently struggled to pay for my daughter's back-to-school supplies and clothes, as well as nearly \$40 a month for school lunches — not to mention a fuel budget that's beginning to look a lot like the national deficit — I feel like it's time to call these oil companies onto the proverbial carpet.

Alon USA has posted record profits over the past several years, and those dollars are made on the backs of Americans just like you and me, who have no choice but to pony up at the gas pumps.

It's no secret by now gas prices in Big Spring are artificially high, with prices in surrounding cities as much as 30 cents lower per gallon. And the really sad part about that is those cities don't have a refinery with its emissions sitting in their back yard.

Nope, that honor is all ours. It's almost like Alon USA — along with many of the other local gas retailers — are saying to the people of Howard County, "Hey, you guys aren't smart enough, rich enough or brave enough to hold us accountable, so take a hike."

In this case, a tax hike. A considerable tax hike.

"The fact is that we agree that the Big Spring Refinery should pay its fair share of taxes," Conciencie and Foster say in the letter. "And we agree that we should pay more taxes than we have in the past. We should pay much more."

At least we agree on something.

Contact Staff Writer Thomas Jenkins at 263-7331 ext. 232 or by e-mail at citydesk@bigspringherald.com.

YOUR VIEWS

TO THE EDITOR:

It's hard to put into words the gratitude felt by the pilots and organizers of the 16th FAI World Hang Gliding Championships to the people of Big Spring. Your community impressed our visitors from all over the world with your warmth, generosity and Texas hospitality.

Although there really isn't space here to thank everyone who helped, I'd like to list some of the noteworthy ones. Jim Little went out of his way to accommodate us at the AirPark, closing the airport during our busiest time and putting up with our disruption, unending requests and abuse of his copier. Mayor Russ McEwen has always been a huge supporter of the pilots and he talked with Alon Refinery to support the Second Annual World Spot Landing Contest. The Big Spring Hang Gliding Committee, chaired this year by Terry and Lora Woffard, seemed to think of everything and take care of it even before we asked. They were assisted by the hard work and promotional talent of Debbie Wegman of the Convention and Visitors Bureau and Debbye Valverde of the Chamber of Commerce. Marc Marchesseault labored long and hard to make the impressive flagpoles and flag stand for our opening and awards ceremonies. Local musicians and singers helped to make the opening ceremony memorable and festive with their music.

Volunteers from the Hangar 25 Museum gave of their time and labor, as well as their tables and chairs. To help with emergencies, Carl Condray coordinated the ambulances and EMS response for the event. Folks from Midway Baptist Church put on a sumptuous brisket dinner for the pilots and stayed late so the stragglers could get something to eat. St. Paul Lutheran brought us breakfast one morning and offered use of their fellowship hall for the awards dinner on very short notice. Bob and Jason Brock provided two large vehicles to move around the dignitaries and staff during the event. In addition, countless volunteers helped us by working the launch lines, loaning us golf carts and four-wheelers, making coffee and cleaning up after us. Many local businesses were

extremely generous to us. And of course, Jody Nix sang at our opening ceremony and was a gracious host to us at the Stampede on the last night.

To those of you on whose property our competitors landed unexpectedly, we owe a special thanks for your kind welcome. Many pilots mentioned how much they appreciated your interest and your offer of a drink of water or a cold beer. Over and over they mentioned the warmth of the Texan people they had the opportunity to meet.

Finally, the enthusiastic and well-informed coverage of the Herald, specifically the articles by Thomas Jenkins, were some of the best we have seen in any of the mainstream media. From the tabloid insert to mark the kickoff to the daily front-page coverage, you really captured the spirit and excitement of hang gliding competition. We especially appreciated the cooperation and help of Editor John Moseley in developing the insert.

In large part because of the efforts of the Big Spring community, this World Championships will be remembered as perhaps the best one ever. We think every pilot who was here would agree they hope to be back for more flying in future years.

BELINDA BOULTER, DAVID GLOVER AND DAVIS STRAUB

TO THE EDITOR:

One thousand, seventy-two columns ago (that would make it in late spring 1985), the publisher and managing editor of the *Big Spring Herald* came to my studio and asked me to start writing a weekly column about Texas for the newspaper. I was thrilled to say yes and we agreed on a modest price: \$5 per column. I told them I would like to syndicate the column statewide and they agreed. I was immensely gratified when so many other papers across the state bought the column.

Today I got a note written on the monthly statement I send to the *Herald* that the paper can no longer afford my column. It always hurts to get a cancellation, but especially so when it is in the town where I live.

I'm sure the powers that be at the *Herald* will make some reply to

this letter, but I would like to remind folks who have enjoyed my column that it is available in newspapers in the nearby cities of Stanton, Midland, Gail and Colorado City, plus dozens of other papers around the state.

TUMBLEWEED SMITH
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

Last Saturday, I had the pleasure of taking a concealed hand gun course in Big Spring. I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to Tommy Scott, constable of Mitchell County, who was the instructor for the course.

What an outstanding job he did, along with the volunteer helpers, who took time out of their weekend to go out on a hot Saturday to mow and weed-eat the grounds of the Sportsman World Club so we could complete the course by target practicing.

Also, thanks to my brother-in-law, Danny Wright, for taking time to make sure I completed this course.

LORETTA OWEN
GRAHAM

TO THE EDITOR:

The Cameron County Sheriff's Department received approval from Adan Munoz, director of the Texas Commission on Jail Standards, on Monday to move nonviolent offenders into an army-style tent.

Read the article for yourselves at: http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/news/tent_79685_article.html/sheriff_inside.html.

BEN BAUCUM
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

Two other ideas presented at the public hearings Thomas Jenkins didn't report are:

First, putting the voters a proposition which would reduce the Moore Board for Development Inc. sales tax from half a percent to a quarter of a percent while simultaneously enacting a Chapter 327 State Tax Code 'Street Maintenance and Repair Tax' which would provide approximately \$600,000 per

See LETTERS, Page 5A

BUSINESS AND AGRICULTURE

Do you have an interesting item for the Business and Agriculture pages? Call John Moseley, 263-7331, Ext. 230, or leave a voice mail.

BIG SPRING HERALD

Page 4C
Sunday, September 2, 2007

Wind farm may blow funds toward BSISD

By **STEVE REAGAN**
Staff Writer

Big Spring Independent School District trustees have agreed to give plans for a wind farm northeast of town a financial helping hand.

During their Thursday meeting, trustees voted to tentatively approve a valuation cap on property designated for use by Invenergy Co. to construct 84 wind power turbine towers within the next two years.

Once complete, Gunsight Mountain Wind Energy LLC is projected to supply approximately 126 megawatts of electrical energy, according to company officials.

Once trustees give formal approval to the agreement — action which is expected within a month — Invenergy will pay full taxes on the property for two years, then the district will cap the property valuation of the project at \$30 million until 2018, at which time the company

will once again pay taxes on the full valuation, BSISD Superintendent Michael Downes said.

An added bonus to the agreement is that Invenergy will pay the district 40 cents on every tax dollar it saves above that \$30 million mark.

Downes said the agreement will mean more local money for the school district without cutting into state funding.

"This kind of agreement exists outside of normal school funding formulas,"

Downes said. "Under normal circumstances, an increase in local tax revenue is offset by a decrease in state funding. Under this agreement, there will be no offset."

Money collected by the district above the \$30 million valuation must be earmarked for capital improvements, he added.

"The net increase for the school district will be approximately \$400,000 for the life of the agree-

See **WIND**, Page 5C

Energy Watch



Bhupen Agrawal is branch manager and a senior vice president of Investments of A.G. Edward's Midland office. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.



Bill Franks, AAMS, is a senior assistant to the branch manager. He is also a member of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

• Six of the 834 oil and gas platforms manned in the Gulf of Mexico were evacuated because of Hurricane Dean's threats. In the southern Gulf, the Campeche Sound is one of the world's largest oil fields. PEMEX, the Mexican state-owned oil company, evacuated about 19,000 workers from its platforms. At least 437 wells were shut down because of Hurricane Dean. Energy Intelligence reported that about 2.65 mbpd of production would be suspended as long as the wells remained evacuated. The Cantarell field in the Bay of Campeche alone produces about 1.8 mbpd, roughly 60 percent of Mexico's output.

• Since 1999, gas prices for all end-user classes have increased anywhere from 73 percent to 128 percent. According to the Energy Intelligence Agency (EIA), accounts in arrears are becoming more prevalent as "energy price increases have outpaced growth in household incomes." The result is more families being eligible for heating assistance. However, the EIA suggests only 20 percent of those eligible for aid actually receive it because funding hasn't kept pace with the growth in eligibility. Thus, the number of overdue accounts has increased from 16.5 percent to 21 percent between 2001 and 2006. The EIA also points out that the amount of money owed has increased from \$263.30 to \$333.61.

• In a report prepared for the California Energy Commission, Jensen Associates suggests the outlook for the global Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) market is "more uncertain at this time than it has been for many years." Clouding the assessment are several unknowns, including geopolitical tensions, developing nations such as China and India, and questions regarding domestic gas production limiting LNG to "supplemental" status.

• The Center for American Progress, a Washington-based group, suggests U.S. House members who voted against the comprehensive clean energy package -- the New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection -- averaged four-times the campaign contributions received from oil and gas companies between 1989 and 2006, compared to those who approved the bill.

• PetroChina is planning to build the world's largest natural gas pipeline. According to a 30-year agreement signed with Turkmenistan, China will buy 17 billion cubic meters of gas each year from the central Asian state. The pipeline connecting the two nations is reportedly going to be the world's longest (4970 miles) and have the largest capacity (30 billion cubic meters).

• Kazakhstan and China have agreed to build pipelines carrying crude and natural gas from the Caspian nation to the western provinces of China. The agreement is disappointing for both the EU and the U.S. They have been encouraging the nation to move supplies across the Caspian Sea to the western markets of Europe.

• Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India has said that his nation needs alternative energy sources to increase the fourth largest economy in Asia to economic growth of 10 percent per month. He claimed the nation's oil import costs are becoming an "unbearable burden." According to a recent Bloomberg article, communist parties have warned Mr. Singh of "serious consequences" if the Indian government follows through on a nuclear deal signed with the U.S., whereby India could purchase reactors to help improve electricity generation within the developing nation.

• Norway independent DNO rejected an unsolicited bid for its Kurdish oil assets. DNO refused to name who the bidder was, only saying it was a large

See **ENERGY**, Page 5C



Courtesy photo

Texas Department of Criminal Justice Units in Colorado City are looking to visit with men and women who may be interested in a career as a correctional officer. From left are Capt. Glenn Sullivan, Maj. Mike Parmer, Officer Dana Magers, Senior Warden Jason Heaton, Officer Gwendolyn Hillis, Officer Bradley Williams and Officer Frank Martinez.

Crime doesn't pay

But the criminal justice system does

Herald Staff Report

Paid training, overtime and a comprehensive benefits package are just some of the reasons working as a correctional officer is a good career choice for a lot of people.

"The Texas Department of Criminal Justice has a great deal to offer someone who is looking for a career in criminal justice and corrections," said Jason Heaton, senior warden at the Wallace and

The public is invited to a hiring seminar at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6, at the Texas Worksource Office in Big Spring.

Ware Units in Colorado City. "It is not difficult to begin your career as a correctional officer and the hiring process is considerably faster than other law enforcement agen-

cies."

The public is invited to a hiring seminar at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 6, at the Texas Worksource Office. The office is located on the second floor of the Big Spring Post Office.

"Those who attend will be able to ask questions concerning working in a prison environment and hear first-hand about the success employees have had with the

See **TDCJ**, Page 5C

Public Records

Howard County Justice of the Peace Outstanding IBC Warrants:

- Sonia M. Barlow, 4209 Parkway, Big Spring
- Stephanie renee Beaty, 2718 E. SH 176, Andrews
- Casey D. Bernal, 901 Grand, Hereford
- Richard Henry Burk, PO Box 171933, Arlington
- Latonya Campbell, 5948 Callaston Lane, Fort Worth
- Bufus Cannon, 3810 Wild Rye Trail, San Angelo
- Lenard Carson Jr., 102 S. Peach, Pecos
- Scott S. Carter, 3223 Cornell, Big Spring
- Andrea Clardy, 2401 Ave. L, Snyder
- Jared Coby, 901 S. High St., Longview
- Patrick C. Criss, 8030 Catalpa, Texas City
- Susan Cuellar, 2301 N. Pecos, Midland
- Ramona Davila, 2143 Texas Ave., San Antonio
- Johnnie Lou Dry, RR 11 Box 156 FM 2011, Longview
- Randy James Ellis, PO Box 391, Snyder

- Andy Lee Flores, 203 N.E. Eighth, Big Spring
- Fermin Lopez Flores Jr., 600 N.W. Seventh St, Big Spring
- Hilda L. Fuentes, 502 S. Seventh, Lamesa
- Aldo Gustavo Galindo, 922 Jeter, Odessa
- Claudet Garza, 3106 E. Elm, Laredo
- Fernando Gonzales, 3000 Schadt, Fort Worth
- Naomi Gonzales, 1606 E. Fifth, Big Spring
- Raul Gonzales, 2106 Johnson, Big Spring
- Jeffrey Grams, 224 Lelon Lane, Springtown
- Nora Gutierrez, 606 N. Eighth Street, Lamesa
- Dana L. Havink, 600 Star Linda Ct., Arlington
- Robert Stephen Hoback, 1516 Comberland, Odessa
- Gerald R. Hodges, 4312 Crane, Houston
- Allan J. Hoey, 1401 N. Highway 87 Apt. 2, Big Spring
- Emily Howard, P.O. box 224, Big Spring
- Juan Baldwin Hubbard, 504 Eugene, Midland

- Lucas Shane Hughes, #1 Courtney Place No. 7, Big Spring
- Jeanie Renee Ivey, 5326 Old State Hwy. 7, La Grange
- Brandy Johnson, 24327 Pleasonton, San Antonio
- Rene M. Johnson, 9205 W. County Road 174, Midland
- Alana Marie Lee, 2711 66th Street, Lubbock
- Patricia Lutrell, 2726 Redwood, Odessa
- Carol Lee McNeil, 2601 Westridge, Snyder
- Ebaine Flores Mendoza, PO Box 291, Mertzon
- Melissa Merket, 402 W. Eighth, Colorado City
- Elizabeth Rose Mills, 1204 Mulberry, Big Spring
- Angela Moreno, 1712 N. Third Street, Lamesa
- Anna Marie Moreno, 4656 St. Frances Ave., Dallas
- Jerry Musquiz, 2609 Cotton Flat Road, Midland
- Michael Todd McClinton, 1003 S. Midkiff, Midland
- William Leslie Neal, 2100 Alabama, Big Spring
- Erica Ortega, 2233 SE Military Dr.,

- San Antonio
- Katherine Hardin Perez, 4908 Parkway, Big Spring
- Michael Dewayne Renteria, 1810 Owens, Big Spring
- Kayana Cooley Rincker, 1905 Wasson Apt. 56, Big Spring
- Alfredo Riojas Jr., 255, S. 11th St., Lubbock
- Gustabo Alfredo Rios, of 1804 Scurry, Big Spring
- Frances Rodriguez, 603 Steakley, Big Spring
- Veronica Rodriguez, 3010 Cherokee, Big Spring
- Sofia Romero, 409 N. Ave. G, Lamesa
- Robert Christopher Rosamond, 801 Lancaster, Big Spring
- Jennifer Ann Rissitas, 1429 E. Sixth, Big Spring
- Steven G. Ross, 60 Cinamon Lane, San Angelo
- Rudy Salazar, PO Box 1275, Stanton
- Emily Sartain, 1806 37th, Snyder
- Crystal Ann Schneider, P.O. Box 844, Coahoma
- Hari Bradford Shaffer, 5603 Gail Hwy., Big Spring
- Janie Spurgeon, 1212 Wadley, Midland

- Shawn Spurgeon, 106 N. Adams, Denver City
- Nikita V. Stewart, 711 SCR W. Apt. 2004, Odessa
- James Sutton, 2225 Oakland, Abilene
- Tracy J. Trevino, 3306 Auburn, Big Spring
- Jimmy Vasquez, 4000 W. Illinois, Midland
- Brenda Vera, 1901 Ave. N, Snyder
- Alicia N. Vernon, 9614 Dover Ridge, San Antonio
- Tyler J. Voss, Fannin Co. Rd 4925, Leonard
- Christina Williams, 400 Macarthur, Odessa
- Bernest Elgen Woolridge, 4110 S. Jackson, Amarillo
- Colby Shea Worden, 1707 State St., Big Spring
- Jerry Lee Wrightsill Jr., 2816 Ridge Road, Fort Worth

- fine, \$274 court costs, 90 days in jail. Judgment and Sentence: Shane Knowlton, burglary of a vehicle, \$1,500 fine, \$274 court costs, 90 days in jail.
- Judgment and Sentence: Shane Knowlton, burglary of a vehicle, \$1,500 fine, \$274 court costs, 90 days in jail.
- Judgment and Sentence: Shane Knowlton, burglary of a vehicle, \$1,500 fine, \$274 court costs, 90 days in jail.
- Judgment and Sentence: Shane Knowlton, burglary of a vehicle, \$1,500 fine, \$274 court costs, 90 days in jail.
- Probated Judgment: Kimberlie Kay Pinada, theft of service - more than \$20 less than \$500 by check, \$500 fine, \$374 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
- Probated Judgment: Jose H. Olivares, driving while license invalid, \$500 fine, \$274 court costs, 180 days in jail (jail time suspended, 12 months probation).
- Judgment and Sentence: Andros Lee Juarez, bail jumping and failure to appear, \$500 fine, \$324 court costs, 90 days in jail.
- Judgment and Sentence: Manuel Lozano III, unlawfully carrying a weapon, \$500 fine, \$369 court costs, 60 days in jail.

See **RECORDS**, Page 5C

LETTERS

Continued from Page 4A

year in revenues that, by law, could only be used for Big Spring streets.

The sales tax rate of 8.25 percent would not change, but the monies would be redirected. The money presently budgeted for streets could then be applied to the new Narcotics Task Force, and our tax rate would not be more than \$1 per \$100 of valuation.

Second, according to the Texas State Comptroller's Annual Property Tax Report for 2005, only 17 cities out of more than 1,000 had tax rates of more than \$1 per \$100 of valuation. Big Spring will soon have the unhappy distinction of being a member of this club.

For your information, the actual property tax ceiling cap may be \$2.50 per \$100 valuation. I can imagine that TAXHOGS all over Texas take comfort in this. More than half, 570, of cities had tax rates of less than 50 cents per \$100 valuation, according to the above-mentioned report.

A.J. WEAVER
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

What is happening to Big Spring? We had a break-in in our neighborhood last night and when we called the Big Spring Police Department we were told it would be a while because they only had two cops on duty!

That is ridiculous. Big Spring is becoming a thieves' haven with no law enforcement. Is there anything that can be done?

This is a serious matter that needs to be out in the open.

COURTNEY RANDALL
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I do not know who is on the Appraisal Review Board that is wanting to raise the tax base on Alon but I have to wonder what rock they crawled out from under. How would they feel if the tax base on their home was raised six times more than it was? Have any of these people ever owned or operated a business and tried to deal with that kind of cost of operation?

I have no reason to believe that Mr. Concienne is lying about their checking other refineries in Texas on their tax obligations, so why is this board being so hard-nosed?

I don't like the price of gasoline and I gripe about that but I would sure hate to see Alon close this refinery and I have no ties at all with Alon, but the 170 workers at Alon are not the only folks who will suffer if they close this plant.

BILL LOVELACE
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I wish to thank you and the *Big Spring Herald* for your support and information published in the *Herald* about our upcoming art show.

We have had entries from many surrounding towns and positive comments from all about your excellent coverage of the event.

We thank you.

DORIS VIERGE
SHOW CHAIRMAN
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

First, I want to state I've

been a Republican all my voting years.

I'm so sad about the way the news media is handling the Idaho senator who is accused of being gay. (Although I did giggle when President Clinton was out on the limb.

I don't think he is gay. I believe when he was in the restroom stall, he could of been out of toilet paper, moving his foot to signal to see if the guy next door had extra.

I e-mailed Rush Limbaugh, Bill O'Reilly and James Dobson. I couldn't get through. I learned later Rush and Bill weren't at their mikes that afternoon and evening.

Also, I hope these guys aren't jumping ship, as the senator needs our moral support more than ever.

I'm also tired of the late night talk shows making fun of the senator, as it could happen to anyone. We aren't perfect.

DON MORRIS
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to take exception to the editorial

in last Sunday's *Herald*. The first sentence read "It doesn't take a genius to understand that being in the oil and gas or refining business is exceedingly lucrative these days." If that be the case why doesn't the editor buy Alon stock and get rich?

The fact of the matter is that if a lemonade stand makes 50 cents that is not an obscene profit even if they only sold 50 cents worth of product, but if an oil company makes a few million on sales of billions that is obscene. I just have to wonder how many people in Big Spring have pensions, mutual funds, annuities that own stock in Alon or other oil companies — and depend upon that income for their living? You might be surprised as to how many individuals in Big Spring own Alon stock outright.

Some time back I wanted to invest in stock and considered phone companies, retail sales like Wal-Mart and Dillards and several others including oil companies. Alon was not the most profitable stock to own by any manner of means. I bought it because I thought it had

excellent management and a bright future, I appreciate having them as neighbors. Alon is good for Big Spring.

I would be more than happy to buy one share of stock for the editor so he could become a capitalist. I see Alon is selling for \$37.99 at this time. Incidentally, the "lucrative" dividend they are paying is 16 cents per share per year.

RALPH MCLAUGHLIN
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

This letter is for the people of Big Spring who think it is OK to help themselves to things that are outside a home.

I plant those beautiful flowers, not only for my pleasure but for anyone driving down the street to look and enjoy. It takes a lot of work and money to keep the yard green and beautiful. I nurture those flowers like children, weed them, feed them and just in general take good care of them.

If you want a part of any flower I have, stop and ask. I know that pretty plant holder was an eye popper, that's why I hung

it on the porch. If you wanted one like it, all you had to do was ask and I would have taught you how to make one. Hey, I might have even given it to you.

So far, you have removed my lawn mower from the back yard, my weed eater, my mother's lawn mower, my plant and that pretty hanging navy blue macreme planter. It is getting very hard to keep a beautiful yard when you keep helping yourself to my gardening tools. Remember, "thou shall not covet thy neighbors goods," and "thou shall not steal."

If you go to a friend's house and they have a large blue planter with beads and a small pink plant in the first holder and a glass table in the bottom, they did not work for it or receive it as a gift, they stole it.

PHYLLIS HOGAN
BIG SPRING

TO THE EDITOR:

In my opinion, nothing can succeed built on lies.

It takes a strong man like Saddam Hussein to control a country like Iraq. He had nothing to do

with 9-11.

Fifteen of those who hit the World Trade Center were from Saudi Arabia. Bush chose not to bomb his oil buddies. Instead he invaded Afghanistan, but didn't go after Bin-Laden. We have satellites that could have pinpointed exactly where he was and dropped the size of bond it took to get him.

Instead Bush wanted Hussein, who he blamed for trying to assassinate George H. after Desert Storm was over.

He went to Kuwait to get his \$2 million payoff from the Kuwaiti government. He has destroyed a nation, gotten our young men killed and built it all on lies.

I am in favor of punishing him, Chaney and Colin Powell for getting on TV and lying to the American people and telling them that Hussein had weapons of mass destruction, which was a lie.

I am in favor of barring him from ever coming back to Texas. Let him go back to Connecticut where he was born and be with Joe Lieberman.

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Left To Right: Front Row: Paula McCullar, Mgr., Gary Burt, Mike Rivera, Laura Martin. Middle Row: Joanna Dykes, James Wilson; Back Row: Terry Wooten, Gary Krager, Cecil Bynum, Ruben Holguin.

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TDCJ

Continued from Page 4C

agency," said Heaton. "The benefits of being a state employee are hard to beat. The state pays 100 percent of the employee medical insurance and 50 percent of medical insurance for eligible dependents. You earn vacation time, sick time, compensation time, holiday time, and we pay for overtime hours worked," Heaton said. "If you are concerned about retirement, the Employee Retirement System has the answer. After 90 days of employment, you begin contributing to ERS and the state contributes a percentage also." The Wallace/Ware Units offer two different work schedules. Wallace Unit employees work a 12-hour shift, four days on and four days off. Ware Unit employees work 8-hour,

45-minute shifts, six days on and three days off. Days off rotate so employees have some weekdays off as well as weekends. And, Heaton noted, there is ample opportunity at each unit to work overtime. Training for correctional officers is approximately six weeks long. Successful applicants are a paid employee the first day of the academy. TDCJ supplies all necessary uniforms and equipment, as well as free meals while on duty. "This is a fast track to a new career," the warden said. "There are many jobs out there, but TDCJ offers career opportunities to those people who want a profession." In order to apply for a correctional officer position applicants must meet the following criteria: — You must be at least 18 years old (no age maximum).

— Eligible to work in the United States.
— Have a high school diploma or GED.
— No felony convictions or drug related offenses.
— No class A or B misdemeanor convictions within past 5 years.
— Not be on probation for any criminal offense or pending charges.
— Pass the TDCJ pre-employment test and drug test.
There are several correctional officer screening dates available in the surrounding area. TDCJ will be testing in Big Spring Sept. 12-13th at the Worksource Office, and in Colorado City at the Wallace Unit Sept. 10-11, 17 and 24-25. TDCJ holds training at Plainview and in Snyder on the Western Texas College campus. For more information about the program, contact Lloyd Wells, TDCJ recruiter, at (432) 264-8807.

Government enforcing rule, Mexican truckers must speak English

HARLINGEN (AP) — Interstate truck and bus drivers across America may find themselves pulled off the highway if state troopers or vehicle inspectors find they can't speak English. The requirement has been on the books for decades, but enforcement has begun before Mexican trucks are allowed in the U.S. interior as of Sept. 6. "We have found people in violation of this for a number of years and we're working feverishly to correct it," said John Hill, head of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. Since 1971, federal law has said that commercial drivers must read and speak English "sufficiently to understand highway traffic signs and signals and directions given in English and to respond to official inquiries." Hill said the language deficiency was found mostly in the commercial zone that varies from 25 miles to 75 miles north of the Mexican border, but since inspectors there are bilingual and Mexican truckers are not allowed past that zone, it hasn't been an issue. But after more than a decade of legal wrangling, U.S. highways are opening up.

ENERGY

Continued from Page 4C

international oil company. The bid suggests that some major Independent Oil Companies are becoming more interested in dipping a toe in the Iraqi waters. Noting the instability of the nation, we also think it again shows the risks they are willing and forced to take to increase their proven reserves. Increasingly, oil production is shifting to more inhospitable areas of the world. • South Korea's top crude suppliers during the month of July included Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Iran, Kuwait, and Russia. The nation's imports increased 0.7 percent from last year, to 2.35 mbpd. • The United Arab Emirates may cut up to 0.8 mbpd of production during October as major maintenance work is undertaken. • Reflecting the resumption of some production from the Niger Delta region, three cargoes of Forcados crude oil measuring 0.9 mb each will be lifted. Exports from Forcados had been halted early last year when kidnappings and infrastructure attacks began to increase significantly, making the work highly dangerous. • We've often suggested that ideally OPEC would like to create a trading range for oil, thereby offering the market stability and allowing the cartel to exert its influence on prices. Indonesia's oil minister recently reiterated OPEC's desire in this regard, saying the producer group wants a "stable" crude oil market. OPEC meets again on September 11th. We expect them to be cautious in increasing target production levels.

Portions of this article were produced Aug. 20-24 by Eric Wittenauer, Energy Futures Analyst, Global Investment Strategy, A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. Its publication is a collaborative effort and the information is obtained from sources considered reliable; however, its accuracy is not guaranteed by A.G. Edwards. Additional information is available upon request by calling (432) 684-7335. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

WIND

Continued from Page 4C

ment," Downes said. The wind farm will be constructed on the border of BSISD and Sands Consolidated ISD. Downes said 75 percent of the project will be located within the Big Spring dis-



trict. Downes said the school district will contract with a consultant to devise an

economic impact analysis of the agreement. Following that, trustees will schedule a public hearing on the deal before giving formal approval.

Contact Staff Writer Steve Reagan at 263-7331, ext. 234 or by e-mail at reporter@bigspringherald.com.

RECORDS

Continued from Page 4C

Jail. Judgment and Sentence: Manuel Romero Lozano III, driving while license invalid, \$500 fine, \$369 court costs, 60 days in jail.
Marriage Licenses: Jerry Knox Roach, 78, and Emma Weir Carr, 82, both of Big Spring.
District Court Filings: Howard County, et al vs. West Texas Renewables Limited Partnership, tax. Howard County, et al vs. Branda Bodin individually and d/b/a Tanique Tanning, tax. Howard County, et al vs. Jeff Rodriguez and Regina Rodriguez individually and d/b/a Coronado Hills Apts., tax. Howard County, et al vs. Black Family Partnership Ltd., tax. Howard County, et al vs. XTO Energy Inc., tax. Howard County, et al vs. JMI Energy

Inc., tax. Howard County, et al vs. Spa Productions Signal Peak LP, tax. Howard County, et al vs. Webb N. Batson, tax. Howard County, et al vs. Neal J. Reed, tax. Howard County, et al vs. Bill F. Andrews, tax. Valatine Torres Jr. vs. Sandra Marie Torres, divorce. Ernestina H. Flores vs. Jesus Eusebio Flores, divorce. Sergio Ovalle vs. Trista Casey, divorce. Clyde M. Clark vs. Marilyn Elaine Jackson Clark, divorce. In the Interests of Ilene Mildred Roberts Zant, family. Melissa S. White vs. Jon White, divorce. Jennifer R. Dugger vs. Douglas Pennington, protective order. Tammie Kay Rogers vs. Timmy Wayne Rogers, protective order. Margarita Muniz vs. John Dee Lawrence Baker, protective order. William Cox vs. Thomas Cox, protective order.

Warranty Deeds: Grantor: The Decorator's Center and Stylistics Hair Salon Inc. Grantee: Clarence Watznauer and Ouida Watznauer Property: Lot 1, Block 16, McDowell Heights Date: Aug. 22, 2007 Grantor: Charles Myers Grantee: Robert G. Worthy Property: Lot H, Section 2, Village at the Spring Date: Aug. 23, 2007 Grantor: Elaine Ocoee Moore and Horace Earl Puckett Grantee: Jorge Salan and Olivia Salan Property: A 39.38 acre tract out of Section 27, Block 32, T-2-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Aug. 23, 2007 Grantor: Brogton Farm Co. Grantee: Chad Darren Kinard, Brad Aaron Kinard and Charles Ray Kinard

Property: A tract out of Section 24, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Aug. 23, 2007 Grantor: Brogton Farm Co. Grantee: Chad Darren Kinard, Brad Aaron Kinard and Charles Ray Kinard Property: A tract out of Section 27, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Aug. 23, 2007 Grantor: Brogton Farm Co. Grantee: Chad Darren Kinard, Brad Aaron Kinard and Charles Ray Kinard Property: A tract out of Section 27, Block 33, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Aug. 23, 2007 Grantor: David Lambert and Bonnie Lambert Grantee: Huebner Land Partnership Property: A 17.61 acre tract out of Section 13, Block 33, T-1-S, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Aug. 28, 2007 Grantor: Brent A. Raney and Annette

Raney Grantee: Jack Ellis Geise and September Geise Property: Lot 20, Block 26, Monticello Addition No. 7 Date: Aug. 28, 2007 Grantor: Effie M. Bowman Grantee: Westech Services Inc. Property: The E/19 feet of Lot 25, the W/26 feet of Lot 24, and the W/5 feet of Lot 24, Block 1, Hayden Addition Date: Aug. 29, 2007 Grantor: Donny Lindsey Grantee: Shannon D. Smithie and Angela Smithie Property: Lot 23, Block 1, Bates Addition Date: Aug. 29, 2007 **Warranty Deeds With Vendor's Lien:** Grantor: Frankie D. Chandler Grantee: Sonny J. Vasquez Property: Lot 22, Block 4, Wasson Place Addition

Date: Aug. 22, 2007 Grantor: Ronald L. Howell and Patricia Howell Grantee: Kimberlie Pineda Property: Lot 2, Block 2, Rice Addition Date: Aug. 24, 2007 Grantor: Curtis Alton Rogers Grantee: James Robbins and Sharon Robbins Property: A tract out of Section 32, Block 32, T-1-N, T&P RR Co. Survey Date: Aug. 28, 2007 Grantor: Matthew R. Ricketts Grantee: Rebekah L. Byerly and Douglas Merworth Property: Lot 8, Block 2, Central Park Date: Aug. 28, 2007 Grantor: Cartus Relocation Corp. Grantee: Arthur Valdez III and Jennifer Valdez Property: Lot 3, Block 4, Kentwood Unit No. 1 Date: Aug. 29, 2007

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► News in brief

Woman found guilty of evidence tampering in dismemberment case

AUSTIN (AP) — A 24-year-old woman has been convicted of evidence tampering in connection with the death and dismemberment of a 21-year-old woman found in a bathtub near the University of Texas campus.

Laura Hall faces up to 10 years in prison after being found guilty Friday. She was also convicted of hindering apprehension, a misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail.

Prosecutors say she helped cut off the hands and head of Jennifer Cave, who was shot and stabbed in August 2005. Colton Pitonyak, a Little Rock, Ark., native and UT student, was convicted of killing Cave and sentenced to 55 years in prison.

Hall did not visibly react Friday when the guilty verdict was read. She did not testify during her trial.

Her DNA was found on the gun used to kill Cave. A witness who shared a jail cell with Hall testified that Hall bragged about dismembering Cave's body.

Cave's case was the inspiration for a law signed by Gov. Rick Perry that makes desecration of a human corpse a felony and offers counseling to jurors subjected to graphic images or testimony during trials.

Bexar County sheriff resigns under indictment

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The Bexar County sheriff has resigned, weeks after being indicted on misdemeanor charges related to a Costa Rican trip he took with a company that was awarded a lucrative contract at the jail.

Ralph Lopez was Bexar County's sheriff for 16 years and was running for reelection. His resignation, effective immediately, came in a letter delivered Friday to county commissioners by Bexar County District Attorney Susan Reed.

The Commissioners Court will appoint a new sheriff by Sept. 19, officials said. State law authorizes deputies to carry out the sheriff's duties until a successor takes office.

Lopez did not state a reason for stepping down in his resignation letter.

"He did say he's going to take some time with his family and wanted some privacy," Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff said.

Lopez was indicted on charges of gift to a public servant, accepting an honorarium and failure to report what he received. The misdemeanors are punishable by fines and jail time of more than two years.

The Costa Rica trip was taken in August 2005, the same year that Louisiana-based Premier Management Enterprises received contracts for the jail commissary and another annex gen-

erating \$2 million in gross annual sales. The contracts were controlled by a benevolence fund created by Lopez, Reed said.

Lopez's attorney has said the sheriff did take the trip, but for legitimate business reasons.

6-year-old boy killed by pet pit bull, police say

DALLAS (AP) — A 6-year-old boy died Friday after he was mauled by his family's pet pit bull, police said.

Scott Warren was inside his house Friday evening with his 13-year-old sibling when the dog attacked, Dallas police spokesman Sgt. Gil Cerda said. Family members told police the 1-year-old dog did not have a history of aggressive behavior.

"When the mother came inside the house, she saw the dog attacking the 6-year-old and tried to restrain the dog," Cerda said. "By that time, a lot of damage had been done."

Warren was taken to a hospital, where he died, Cerda said.

The fatal mauling comes a day before a new state law takes effect in which dog owners whose pets attack and seriously injure someone could face up to 10 years in prison. In a fatal attack, the sentence could increase to up to 20 years.

Cerda said it's too early to say whether anyone will face criminal charges.

Animal control officers removed the dog from the home. Its fate has not been decided, Cerda said.

"In many of these cases, the dog is normally euthanized," Cerda said.

ACLU sues over alleged bias

DALLAS (AP) — A justice of the peace was sued Friday for allegedly ordering a man from his courtroom for refusing to remove his turban while defending himself in a traffic citation case.

The lawsuit charges that Judge Albert B. Cercone violated Amardeep Singh's religious rights because the turban is a religious article for Sikh men.

The American Civil Liberties Union filed the lawsuit on Singh's behalf in state district court in Dallas. It asked that Cercone and other judges be prohibited from forcing people to remove clothing required by their religion.

Singh said he tried to enter Cercone's courtroom in June 2006 to contest a speeding ticket, but a guard barred him under a policy barring hats, and court personnel told him to speak to the judge.

Singh said he tried to explain that his faith requires wearing a turban but that the judge ordered him to leave the courtroom or face arrest.

According to the lawsuit, Singh consulted his uncle, a high priest, before removing the turban and putting his uncut hair in a pony tail to return to the courtroom in a "personally compromis-

ing and humiliating position."

The judge did not respond immediately to a request for comment left with his staff.

Navdeep Singh, a spokesman for the Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund, said the group tried to contact the judge and the Dallas district attorney's office before approaching the ACLU about filing a lawsuit. He said the judge declined to respond and that an assistant district attorney said no prosecutors could recall the incident.

Texas town abuzz over reports of bloodsucking 'chupacabras'

CUERO (AP) — Phylis Canion lived in Africa for four years. She's been a hunter all her life and has the mounted heads of a zebra and other exotic animals in her house to prove it.

But the roadkill she found last month outside her ranch was a new one even for her, worth putting in a freezer hidden from curious onlookers: Canion believes she may have the head of the mythical, bloodsucking chupacabra.

"It is one ugly creature," Canion said, holding the head of the mammal, which has big ears, large fanged teeth and grayish-blue, mostly hairless skin.

Canion and some of her neighbors discovered the 40-pound bodies of three of the animals over four days in July outside her ranch in Cuero, 80 miles south-east of San Antonio.

Canion said she saved the head of the one she found so she can get to the bottom of its ancestry through DNA testing and then mount it for posterity.

She suspects, as have many rural denizens over the years, that a chupacabra may have killed as many as 26 of her chickens in the past couple of years.

"I've seen a lot of nasty stuff. I've never seen anything like this," she said.

Henriette strengthens off Pacific coast; Felix forms in Caribbean

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP) — Tropical Storm Henriette dumped heavy rains in this Pacific resort city, flooding streets and prompting officials to close more than 1,000 schools, while Tropical Storm Felix formed Saturday in the Caribbean.

Henriette was expected to become a hurricane by early Sunday, according to the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami.

It was not expected to make landfall.



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READER'S CORNER

Chief Wedowee

On a tree lined creek bank near a rocky crest
 The chief of the Cherokees stopped for a rest
 He'd gone deep into the forest many miles from home
 To meditate in private and just to be alone
 A quiver of arrows hung by his side made by the hunters of the Cherokee tribe
 They stalked the wild animals with the greatest of care
 The panther, the cougar and the great grizzly bear
 The soft green moss made a comfortable bed
 and with his buckskin jacket folded under his head
 He closed his eyes and opened his mind
 As he thought of his people he'd left far behind
 He thought of his daughters and his brave fearless sons
 of the battles he'd lost and the many he'd won

of the beautiful maiden he'd taken as a wife
 of the joy and contentment she'd brought to his life
 of the peace pipes, the pow wows of the wild tribal dance
 and the shy young maidens as they flirted and pranced
 of the copper skin children, their laughter and fun
 of a dew-drenched meadow where the wild ponies run
 He thought of his ancestors who'd lived in these hills
 of the warriors of old, of their courage and skills
 of the chatter of squaws washing clothes in the creek and the mouth-watering aroma of slow roasting meat
 With a gentle nudge from his pony he realized with a start
 sunlight was fading, soon all would be dark
 Both he and his pony were eager to ride
 The proud Chief Wedowee of the Cherokee tribe.

By Louise Beverly Burgess

WHO'S WHO

Dustin Wilson, son of David and Susan Wilson of Big Spring, graduated on Aug. 11, 2007, from the University of North Texas in Denton. He earned a degree in English and creative writing. He will reside in New York.



Wilson

Kelli Schaedel of Big Spring joined youngsters in attending the Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville this summer. She was sponsored by Phillip Reid of the Sand Springs Lions Club.



Schaedel

The Texas Lions Camp offers camping sessions to children ages 7 through 16 who have visual, hearing or physical disabilities. Campers enjoy arts and crafts, field sports, horse riding, swimming, theater and camping overnight, depending on their abilities. Children attend the camp at no cost to themselves or their families.

Friends of Library planning book sale

Herald Staff Report

The Friends of the Howard County Library are requesting donations for a book sale.

"We want nice, used books," Howard County Library Hollis McCright said. "We don't want books that look like they've been out in the chicken barn. We also ask that people do not donate Reader's Digest books, National Geographic or magazines."

McCright asks that the donated books be boxed, if at all possible and that they be brought to the library during normal business hours.

The book sale will be held Sept. 14 through Sept. 16 in the library basement.

The Friends of the Library is a non-profit organization which provides supplemental support for the library. Its most recent project has been the summer reading program.

For more information on the book sale, contact the library at 264-2260.



Courtesy photo
 Boy Scout Troop 5, chartered by First Baptist Church of Big Spring, recently visited the U.S.S. Lexington Museum aircraft carrier at Corpus Christi. Pictured left to right, are, front row, Brent Wright, Matthew Tompkins, Brent Yater and Austen Newton, and back row, Gerald Harris, Andrew Newton, Clay Harris and Jacob Wylie. Troop 5 leaders and sponsors were Don and Mindy Whittenburg, Troy Tompkins and Cindy Yater.

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Scandal forces Idaho senator to resign

By JOHN MILLER

Associated Press Writer

BOISE, Idaho — Idaho Sen. Larry Craig resigned Saturday over a men's room sex sting, bowing to pressure from fellow Republicans worried about a scandal dimming their election prospects.

"I apologize for what I have caused," Craig said.

Craig's resignation completed a stunning downfall that began Monday with the disclosure that he pleaded guilty to a reduced charge following his arrest during a sex sting in a Minneapolis airport men's room.

Although leading members of his own party had called for him to step down, Craig steadfastly resisted resigning for days, contending that he had done nothing wrong and that his only mistake was pleading guilty to a misdemeanor charge.

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell said from Kentucky that Craig "made a difficult decision, but the right one."

"It is my hope he will be remembered not for this, but for his three decades of dedicated public service," McConnell said. McConnell had been one of Craig's harshest critics, calling his actions "unforgivable."

He and other GOP leaders asked Craig to give up his senior positions on Senate committees on Wednesday, a day after they asked the Senate ethics committee to investigate his actions.

Craig spokesman Sidney Smith said he didn't know if Craig would return to Washington.

"We haven't decided that yet, whether he's going to return or not," Smith said.

Craig was defiant after the arrest and guilty plea were first reported. "I am not gay. I never have been gay," he declared Tuesday in Boise, Idaho, with his wife, Suzanne, at his side. He said he had kept the incident from aides, friends and family and pleaded guilty "in hopes of making it go away."

Craig, 62, represented Idaho in Congress for more than a quarter-century and was up for re-election next year. He had not said if he would run for a fourth term in 2008 and had been expected to announce his plans this fall.

"It is with sadness and deep regret that I announce it is my intent to resign from the Senate effective Sept. 30," Craig said, with his wife again at his side and Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter standing behind him.

"For any public official at this moment in time to be standing with Larry Craig is in itself a humbling experience," Craig said.

Craig was arrested June 11 in a police undercover vice operation in a men's room at the Minneapolis airport. The arresting officer, Sgt. Dave Karsnia, said in his report that the restroom is a known location for homosexual activity.

"I am not gay. I never have been gay," Craig said at a news conference here Tuesday, a day after his guilty plea became public.

Republicans, worried about the scandal's effect on next year's election, suffered a further setback Friday when veteran Republican Sen. John Warner of Virginia announced he will retire rather than seek a sixth term. Democrats captured Virginia's other Senate seat from the GOP in the 2006 election.

Otter said Saturday he has not chosen a replacement, although several Republicans familiar with internal deliberations said he favored Republican Lt. Gov. Jim Risch. He called speculation that he has made a choice "dead wrong."

Craig opposes gay marriage and has a strong record against gay rights. He was a leading voice in the Senate on gun issues and Western lands. Craig chaired the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee and was a senior member of the Appropriations Committee, where he was adept at securing federal money for Idaho projects.

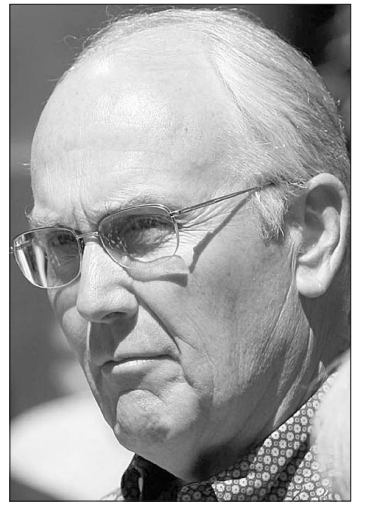
A fiscal and social conservative, Craig sometimes broke with his party, notably on immigration,

where he pushed changes that many in his party said offered "amnesty" to illegal immigrants. Much of the impetus behind Craig's push to ease bureaucratic hurdles to immigrant farm workers stemmed from his background as a rancher and the state's large rural, farming community.

Craig has faced rumors about his sexuality since the 1980s. He has called assertions that he has engaged in gay sex ridiculous.

"I have little control over what people choose to believe," he said Saturday. "But clearly my name is important to me and my family is so very important also."

Craig said pursuing legal efforts to clear his name "would be an unwanted and unfair distraction from my job and for my Senate colleagues. The people of Idaho deserve a senator who can devote 100 percent of his time and effort to the critical issues of our state and of our nation."



LARRY CRAIG

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Annie's Mailbox ®: Advice for those in need

Dear Annie: Once a month, my husband and I get together for dinner with another couple. We take turns buying. The other three always order after-dinner drinks or espresso, but I prefer dessert. I rarely eat sweets and really look forward to the exceptional desserts at the restaurants we go to.

Each time, I glance around the table and say, "Are you sure you don't want to try the desserts? They're fantastic here." Everyone always says no. The problem? I have noticed that at every place we have dined, the server arrives with their drinks, then places MY dessert in the middle of the table with four dessert forks. Of course, they all begin chatting and start digging in. I have yet to enjoy a dessert by myself.

Recently, trying to be nice, I ordered my dessert and whispered to the server to bring another "for the table." As usual, he placed the dessert in the middle with three forks, and then placed the



KATHY MITCHELL
MARCY SUGAR

second one in front of me. Our friends started laughing and said, "I guess we always eat your desserts, don't we?" My husband was silent the rest of the evening.

In the car, he angrily said, "I didn't think you were such a selfish person." I was dumbstruck. I told him I wanted to have my own dessert and I'm also not too keen on the germ thing. He pointed out that since it was their turn to pay, it was rude to order an extra dessert. My cake was \$8. They ordered \$14 cognacs.

Why would my server, without asking, assume my dessert was for everyone? And why in the world would this make my husband so upset? Who's right? — Deprived Chocoholic

Dear Deprived: You are, although you should have made your move when you were paying the bill. Your husband is upset because he doesn't want to appear greedy, but your friends should have asked permission to share your dessert. And although many diners put a single dessert in the middle of the table, the waitstaff should never make that assumption. Next time you are hosting, say loudly that you are ordering a dessert for the table and also one for yourself.

Dear Annie: I have been dating a wonderful man who is very special, but has absolutely no table etiquette. I know I should try to overlook it, but I can't.

"Jed" talks with his mouth full, chows down as if he hasn't eaten in a

month, uses his fingers to push food onto his fork, holds his fork upright as if he's about to carve a turkey and cuts all his meat into pieces before he starts to eat.

This is starting to affect the romantic side of our

relationship. One evening, I actually got nauseous. I hate to hurt him. What can I do? — Dating a Caveman

Dear Dating: Breaking up over this would also hurt, so you may as well say something. Tell Jed

you think he is wonderful and you want others to think so, too, but his table manners might give a negative impression, especially to business associates. Ask if he would mind if you gave him a few pointers.



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